

1
.S5536
S563x
1905

THE HISTORY
OF
JOHN SHOFNER
AND HIS DESCENDANTS

BY
C. L. SHOFNER, B.S., LL.B.

THE LIBRARY
BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY
PROVO, UTAH

Circulate

**Do Not
Circulate**







JOHN SHOFNER,
1787-1857.

929. 2
Sh 73h

THE HISTORY

OF

One Branch of the Shoffner Family

OR

JOHN SHOFNER

AND HIS DESCENDANTS

INCLUDING ALSO

Records of the Shoffner Reunions



BY

C. L. SHOFFNER, B.S., LL.B.



NASHVILLE, TENN.
MCQUIDDY PRINTING COMPANY
1905

**THE LIBRARY
BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY,
PROVO, UTAH**

PREFACE.

At the first reunion of the Shoffner family—September 5-7, 1900—a historical committee, composed of nine members, was appointed by the chairman, Mr. Chris. H. Shofner, eight of these representing the branches of Martin Shofner's family, and the ninth representing Martin's brother, Peter Shofner. Since that time most of those on this committee have been working faithfully, and several are now ready with their reports. Every one is looking forward to the time, and all hope that it is not far distant, when every member on the committee will report "ready" and the work be prepared for compiling into one complete volume.

In getting up this data, the usual obstacles of all such undertakings had to be surmounted. Doubtful traditions, unreliable and incomplete records, slow correspondence, careless answers, and a natural obscurity which time casts over all events in the distant past, all tend to mislead the one searching after the true facts. But with the careful assistance we have had from older people, the access to records of pioneer times that were well kept, and the energetic efforts of our colaborers in this work, we have assurances that this volume presents many facts that should be preserved to posterity. We earnestly hope that this effort is the beginning of greater strides toward crystallizing and perpetuating pioneer and ancestral history.

In presenting this volume to the relatives and the

public in general, no pretension is made at offering a perfect work. It is submitted as representing a considerable amount of labor, large correspondence, and research among many old records. Changes, corrections, and comments in general will be carefully considered if presented to your committeeman in writing.

If in this small volume an interest in family tradition, a pride in ancestry, a deeper brotherly feeling toward our kinsman and our fellow-man, a greater reverence for the flag our forefathers helped to unfurl over this country, is in the least fostered, cherished, and augmented, then we must feel that our efforts have not been wholly in vain.

In the preparation of this work, gathering the data, and writing biographical sketches, the editor in chief received the valuable services of Mrs. Hattie J. Shoffner, Mrs. Ann Woosley, T. J. Shoffner, William S. Wells, Mrs. J. E. Shoffner, Mrs. Amelia Silvertooth, Miss Fannye McConnell, Mrs. John W. Wirsching, Miss Mattie Coleman, Mrs. Belle Coleman, Col. William J. Shoffner, and Mrs. C. L. Shoffner, who not only corrected the manuscript, but assisted in the arrangement of the work. Many others, too, kindly gave a helping hand when called upon.

All communications regarding the subject-matter should be addressed to C. L. Shoffner, Honaker, Va.

INTRODUCTION.

For some years it has been the main object with the prime movers of the annual Shoffner reunion to have published a complete history of the family since landing on American soil. Such a history would begin with the landing of Michael Shoffner in Philadelphia, about 1760, and continue down to the present day.

Michael Shoffner, the pioneer, was born in Germany in 1721, near Frankfort-on-the-Main; and soon after landing at Philadelphia he removed to Orange County, N. C., where he died in 1800. Here he reared four sons and one daughter—Michael, George, Martin, Peter, and Magdalena. Three of these sons served in the Revolutionary War, under General Greene for the most part, but at times were with Steuben and DeKalb. The daughter married a Mr. Anthony, and was the mother of ten children. These sons also reared families, some of them large, but many of them going to different States, until to-day they are scattered almost throughout the Union.

The third child of Michael, the elder, was Martin, who, in turn, reared ten children. Martin was born in 1758; moved to Tennessee in 1808, where he died in 1838. He settled in Bedford County, on Thompson's Creek, near where the Shoffner Lutheran Church now stands. The chapters of the following history are devoted to the life of the fifth child of Martin Shoffner, or John Shofner and his descendants.

In Germany the name was "Schaeffner;" but since coming to America it has been Anglicized into "Shoffner," or "Shofner," as the different members of the family prefer.

In the preparation of this work your editor in chief has deemed it best to make three divisions of the subject-matter.

Part I. gives the history of the life of John Shofner in six chapters. Nine chapters in this part are devoted to life sketches of his children, and one chapter reproduces the "History of the Shoffner Family in Tennessee" as written by Col. Loton Shofner.

Part II. gives a chronological history of the descendants of John Shofner. As it was not practicable to mention each one in the life sketches in Part I., the intention is to herein give the name of every one, together with the dates of births, deaths, marriages, and present location. Some mistakes may be found in this, and some names may be left out; but your committeeman has earnestly endeavored to correctly tabulate this data as it has been given him.

Part III. is entirely devoted to a history of the family reunions; and for the preparation of this we are indebted to "Cousin Vinnie," Mrs. Chris. H. Shofner.

CONTENTS.

PART I.

CHAPTER I.	PAGE.
Early Life of John Shofner.....	15
CHAPTER II.	
Business and Political Career.....	19
CHAPTER III.	
Education ..	21
CHAPTER IV.	
Slavery ..	25
CHAPTER V.	
Home Life ..	29
CHAPTER VI.	
Evening of Life.....	33
CHAPTER VII.	
Joel Shoffner and John R. Shoffner.....	37
CHAPTER VIII.	
Loton Shofner.....	45
CHAPTER IX.	
"History of the Shoffner Family in Tennessee".....	49
CHAPTER X.	
Michael Shoffner ..	53
CHAPTER XI.	
Mary Boyers ..	59

CHAPTER XII.	
Julia B. Morton.....	63
CHAPTER XIII.	
Daniel M. Shofner.....	67
CHAPTER XIV.	
Martha Dyer	71
CHAPTER XV.	
Jane Hester	75
CHAPTER XVI.	
The Second Marriage.....	79
PART II.	
Chronological History	83
PART III.	
First Reunion	107
Second Reunion	116
Third Reunion	121
Fourth Reunion	123
Fifth Reunion	126
Sixth Reunion	129

PART I.



CHAPTER I.

EARLY LIFE.

The subject of our sketch was born in Orange County, N. C., February 23, 1787, son of Martin Shofner, being the fifth child in a family of ten children. His boyhood days were spent in the parental home; and although the means for education were very much limited, yet the father and mother instilled into him and his brothers and sisters the principles of right and justice. When quite young, he developed a great fondness for reading; and this grew with the years of his life, proving not only a source of great pleasure, but a valuable means of self-improvement.

While still quite young, John Shofner first came to Tennessee with Newton Cannon, afterwards Governor of the State, and assisted in surveying a vast portion of what is now Bedford County. At that time in many places the dense canebrakes and vast forests were almost impenetrable, and settlements were few and far between. The "History of Tennessee" says that the first permanent settlements were made in the territory that is now Bedford County in 1805 and 1806, the county not being formed until 1807, and that the Shofners were among the first settlers.

After spending two years in this new country, young John, in about 1805, returned to his relatives in North Carolina. From his glowing accounts of this land of

promise it was not long before the father, Martin Shofner, and his brother, Peter, together with Martin's sons—Christopher, Frederick, and Austin—were wending their way over the rugged mountains toward Tennessee. John remained in North Carolina a few years longer in order to get married and prepare otherwise for spending the rest of his days in the then distant West. He married in 1810; and in 1815 he and his good wife, Amelia, joined the relatives in Bedford County..

The journey across was long and tiresome, being made in covered wagons along bad roads and through forests unbroken, except occasionally by the hut and clearing of some pioneer, the Indian paths, and now and then a wagon road. But these forefathers were undaunted by such trials, and did not hesitate to make the journey with their families. Then, too, after reaching their destination, houses had to be built and land cleared; but they met these obligations with the determination that always succeeds.

After locating on his farm and getting his family well provided for, John Shofner took an active part in developing the country in every way he could. He was ever ready to assist at logrollings, house raisings, corn huskings, and, in fact, wherever he could serve his neighbor, he was always there.

Not only did he thus help in clearing and developing the country, but he was ever ready to serve his State when called upon, as the following, issued March 22, 1823, will testify:

“John Shofner: You must attend the following musters—viz.: The Saturday before the first Friday in April, company muster; first Friday in April, battalion

muster; battalion court-martial on the first Thursday in June; on the fourth Thursday in September, regimental muster; company muster on the Saturday before the fourth Thursday in September; regimental court-martial on the fourth Thursday in November. (Signed) James D. Norvell, Capt. 28th Reg., T. M."

CHAPTER II.

BUSINESS AND POLITICAL CAREER.

Besides being an influential farmer, for many years John Shofner was an extensive operator of cotton gins, he and his sons raising, buying, and selling cotton on a large scale and doing considerable custom work with their gins. Early in his career Mr. Shofner was granted license to manufacture hats and caps in Bedford County. At another time he was interested in the building and sale of the celebrated Pitts Grain Fans, known far and wide for their excellent qualities. This fannery was situated on Duck River, on the Shofner farm, and was operated by the firm of Shofner & Pitts.

In 1815, when John Shofner returned from North Carolina, the political aspects of the country were undergoing great changes. Andrew Jackson was perhaps the most conspicuous figure in American politics; and with his election to the presidency we find the disintegration of the old Federalist party and the birth of a new one, the "Whig" party. John Shofner cast his lot with this new party, and in 1835 assisted in electing his old friend, Newton Cannon, Governor of the State over the popular "Reform Governor," William Carroll. In 1836 he supported Hugh Lawson White, the first Whig candidate for President. Then in 1840 he saw his party candidate, William Henry Harrison, elected as the first Whig President. In 1844 he took an active

interest in the noted Polk-Clay contest, assisting in carrying the State of Tennessee for Henry Clay, although James K. Polk was elected President. In 1848 John Shofner was one of the election officers in his district; and at this election he saw the second Whig, Zachary Taylor, placed in the White House.

In all the elections—county, State, and national—John Shofner always took a keen interest, and was ever ready to assist his party by all the honorable means at his command. He took great pride in the growth and development of the resources of the State; and when the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railway was built, he was one of its most ardent friends, hailing its advent through his part of the State with the greatest enthusiasm. He was one of the stockholders in the Shelbyville and Nashville Turnpike Company.

Col. William J. Shofner, of Thompson's Creek, contributes the following:

“John Shofner was one of the most substantial and successful farmers in the county, and one whom the younger farmers always sought for advice. He was a progressive man from start to finish, possessing a good, Christian character, and always lenient to his neighbors. He was a leader in county politics, always battling for the cause and triumph of the Whig party. In fact, there might be volumes written in praise of his good qualities.”

CHAPTER III.

EDUCATION.

The whole of John Shofner's schoolhouse training was done in North Carolina, the State of his birth. This was very meager, but it was sufficient to lead him on to self-exertion toward a better preparation for life's duties. This was at a time when his daily labors consumed the daylight hours, for the most part; and young John had to seek his improvement as best he could by artificial light. He did not burn the midnight oil, as zealous scholars of this day and time do; but oftentimes he kept the wood fires burning brightly until long into the night, reading by lying on the floor, so that the light would shine on the book; or else he would burn a pine knot, and as long as it lasted he would delve deep into the mysteries of some book.

The first contrivance that he used was a burning cloth in grease held in a mussel shell. Then came the "tallow dip," whereby a string was dipped in melted tallow and taken out to cool, and replaced again for several times until it had a thick coat of tallow on it, and then it was ready for lighting. Next came the tallow molds, by which the candle was cast at one melting; and this was a great improvement, indeed. We next find our ancestors reading from a light made from a real lamp, yet a lamp so crude that the generation of to-day would not recognize it. It was made out of sheet iron, in a

cup shape, with a projecting handle that could be inserted in the cracks in the wall and held firmly while dispelling the gloomy darkness. No oil had yet appeared, but in this we find melted tallow or grease doing service through a twisted piece of cloth for a wick. Then came kerosene, and with it lamps of all kinds; and these brought advancement in means of self-improvement.

When we of to-day see an old letter written one hundred years ago, we little realize at first thought the trouble that it was to the writer. The pen was made from a goose quill trimmed into something like the shape of the steel pen points of the present. The ink also was manufactured at home from the juice of ink balls that grow on oak trees, and to this was added a little copperas to give it a deep color. There was another process also, whereby it was made from logwood. Yet, after all this, we find some splendid scribes of pioneer days. So after realizing what small advantages our ancestors had for obtaining an education and how well they improved the little opportunity they did have, we surely can, with all due reverence, overlook the few mistakes we find in their spelling, writing, etc.

In looking over the old letters left by John Shofner, one is struck forcibly at first by the absence of stamps and envelopes. To-day we would think that a letter could not be written without an envelope, but such was the case in this country until almost up to the time of the Civil War. The letters of those days were written on a large sheet of paper, a part of which was folded so as to encase the balance, and then a drop of ceiling wax was placed on the back to hold it together. Postage

rates were from ten to twenty-five cents for letters, according to the distance to be carried, and it then took weeks to reach its destination. Even after the three-cent stamp for letters came in, which was after 1850, no envelopes yet were used in this part of the country.

In the home life with his parents, brothers, and sisters, John Shofner used the German language; and this language he taught to his older children before they learned to speak English. German Bibles and German songs were used also. But in the little log schoolhouse that stood near where Jenkins' Chapel now stands, English principally was taught; and gradually the children neglected the German, until it was finally discontinued as a means of communication.

It was in this little schoolhouse, erected on John Shofner's land, that most of his children received their first schooling, as well as many more of the children of those times. It was here that Daniel M. (Dock) Shoffner, James Wardlow, and other schoolmasters of different times taught the "young idea how to shoot."

John Shofner was not only a great reader himself during his whole career, but he placed the means before his children to keep them well informed on the events of the day. The following receipts are self-explanatory:

"Nashville, 22 December, 1832.—Received of Mr. John Shofner three dollars, in full, for subscription to the National Banner (weekly) for one year, ending 11th of May, 1833.—Hunt, Tardiff Co."

"Mr. John Shoffner to W. F. Bang & Co., Dr. To subscription to the Weekly Republican Banner from Jany. 15, 1843, to 15 Jany., 1844, \$3. Received pay-

ment, Jany. 19, 1843.—(Signed) M. O. Harris, for W. F. Bang & Co., Nashville.”

“Nashville True Whig Office, May 2, 1853.—Recd. three dollars from Mr. John Shofner, for one year’s subscription to the Weekly Nashville True Whig, from April 9, 1853, to April 9, 1854.—(Signed) B. R. McKennie.”

“John Shoffner to David F. Schaeffer, Dr. To subscription to the Evangelical Lutheran Intelligencer, from No. 1, Vol. 3, to No. 12, Vol. 3. Received payment, \$1.50.”

CHAPTER IV.

SLAVERY.

At the time of his death John Shofner owned seven negroes, but at other times he had owned many more. He was always kind to them, and accorded them such care and treatment that they almost worshiped their master. He rarely ever chastised them, but governed through the kindlier means of persuasion. His spirit was not that of the master in "Uncle Tom's Cabin," but his was the true type of a Southern slaveholder.

As the institution of slavery has long since passed, it may be interesting to the younger generations to know something of how the business was carried on during the lives of their forefathers. At a public sale a negro was placed upon a block three or four feet high, where all the spectators could get a good view of him; then the auctioneer would cry him off to the highest bidder, just as they do any other property now. An extra good slave would bring \$1,500, and some few go higher; and children brought from \$200 up.

At the sale of John Shofner's estate, among others, they put up a small negro boy, who was noted as a great dancer. While on the block, he began dancing; and the more he danced, the higher the bids went, until he was knocked off at \$1,100. The sale of a slave was not good unless in writing, and it took a bill of sale and a guarantee of title to bind the trade. The following is

a true copy of a bill of sale made to Austin Shofner, November 19, 1838:

"Bedford County, Tennessee: We, the executors of Martin Shofner, deceast, have this day sold to Austin Shofner a negro man named 'Dick,' aged about thirty-two years, which we hereby convey to him and his heirs forever, for the sum of eight hundred and fifty-one dollars to us paid; and we hereby convey the same to him and warrant the title to him from any other person or persons whatsoever claiming. Witness our hands and seals this, the 19th day of November, 1838. (Signed) John Shofner (seal), F. Shofner (seal), executors."

One of the interesting characters among the darkies of John Shofner was an old negro preacher by the name of "Randle," whose personal reputation might have been improved by following his own teachings more closely, who, though he could not read, would exhort his colored companions to live better lives. His favorite text was, "The bigger the coon, the more the fur;" and he would begin: "Bruddern and sistern, you will find my text somewhar in de Bible lids." At a sorghum supper and barbecue given by William (Bud) Young about this time, one of the guests, Col. James Mullins, in answer to calls for a speech, rendered this old negro's sermon on this text, and completely "brought down the house."

At their father's sale Loton Shofner bought "Jack" for \$1,500, and Michael bought "Hart" for \$1,000—two young negro brothers. The masters living near each other, at every opportunity these negroes would visit; and invariably they would fight and come home

for repairs. Jack was still living at last accounts in Nashville, where he seems to continue his fighting record.

At the funeral of their mistress in 1849 and of their master in 1857 these colored people sincerely mourned their great loss, which testified to the loyalty of the slaves as well as the kindness of the owners.



CHAPTER V.

HOME LIFE.

On his return to North Carolina after his first visit to Tennessee, John Shofner married Amelia Shofner, February 18, 1810, she being the daughter of his uncle, Michael Shofner. In 1815 John settled on Duck River, about five miles from Shelbyville, on the farm now owned by Mrs. Margaret Wells, a lineal descendant of the Shofner family, where can be seen to-day many indications of his once active career.

Here he reared a large family, the births of his children numbering fifteen. Ten of these—Joel, Loton (both born in North Carolina), Michael, Polly, Julia, Daniel, Martha, Jane, Belle, and John Clay—grew to manhood and womanhood and married, and in many respects followed the footsteps of their parents. Of the fifteen children, only three are living to-day—Mrs. Jane Hester, of Rover, Bedford County, Tenn.; John C. Shofner, of Nashville, Tenn.; and Mrs. Belle Coleman, of Columbia, Tenn. The last two named are children of his second wife. After their marriage, the children scattered all over the State; and the grandchildren have gone still farther, until to-day there are very few States in the Union in which some of these descendants cannot be found; and some have wandered to other countries, and are seeking their fortunes there.

In 1848 John Shofner, his wife, and daughter, Jane,

visited their relatives in Orange County, N. C., the journey being made in a carriage, one of the first of its kind, there being but one more similar to it in the county. This carriage was handmade and valued at \$600, being built by Rev. William Jenkins, an expert carriage maker. It was the greatest delight of the children and grandchildren to get to play in and around it, running up and down the folding steps, and admiring its rich, red lining on the inside. It lasted for years, and was finally sold at the sale in 1857.

On this trip to North Carolina it took them two weeks each way to make the journey. While there, they spent a month with relatives and friends, enjoying again the scenes of their childhood and the place of their birth. Not many months after returning to their Tennessee home Amelia died—August 24, 1849. She and her husband had lived happily together for thirty-nine years, during which time she had become the mother of twelve children.

Hers was an active career, having the oversight of a large family; and in the latter years of her life, besides children and grandchildren, she had to see to the comfort of quite a number of families of slaves. This was the time that nearly all cloth was woven on the loom and clothing made by hand; and while most of the actual labor was performed by the negro women, yet it was the housewife's duty to see that it was done rightly. These duties, and all others, she handled with a resolution that made her mistress of all occasions; and when she was called to the other shore, her absence was deeply mourned by a host of friends, as well as by a loving husband and devoted children.

In his associations, John Shofner was thrown with such men as Nimrod Burrow, Martin Euleess, Hon. Edmund Cooper (now of Shelbyville), Major Landis, William (Bud) Young, Col. James Mullins, Charles Cannon, Clement Cannon, Rev. William Jenkins, Rev. Jeff. King, and many others, all of whom were factors in molding Bedford County.

In his religious belief he was a Lutheran, having been brought up in that faith from early youth. His father, Martin Shofner, being a devout Lutheran before him, donated the land for the old cemetery near "Shofner Church" (so named in honor of Martin Shofner), on Thompson's Creek. Likewise, John Shofner gave the land for the cemetery and for the erection of a Lutheran Church where "Jenkins' Chapel" now stands (so named in memory of Rev. William Jenkins, who served the Lutheran congregations in Tennessee faithfully from 1828 until his death, in 1877).

In 1851 John Shofner married Mrs. Isabella Beavers, a widow with two children; and at his death, in 1857, these two children were among the most grief-stricken, mourning his loss as if an own parent. From this union three children were born, two living now—Mrs. Belle Coleman and John C. Shofner; the third, Isabella, died in infancy.

After living a long, useful life, John Shofner died on January 6, 1857, at the advanced age of seventy years; and his remains now rest in the cemetery at Jenkins' Chapel, near his old home place. A tall shaft stands imposingly over his grave; and beside him sleep the remains of his first wife, Amelia, who came with him from North Carolina. Gathered around these

graves in this same cemetery are scores of others, mostly relatives of these pioneers, who have likewise answered the same call and heard the summons from above: "Well done; come up higher." Here is peace to their ashes; and may their pure examples of honesty, integrity, and perseverance be a balm to every weary, struggling descendant as they travel along life's rugged pathway.

CHAPTER VI.

THE EVENING OF LIFE.

In the latter years of his life Mr. Shofner continued to run his farm; and although not so active as in former years, yet he superintended the work and saw that it was done in the right way. In his business methods he was energetic, honest, and punctual; and in his family relations he was ever gentle, kind-hearted, even-tempered, and considerate of the welfare of others. It was said of him by his intimate family associates that he was one of the best men that ever lived.

As a citizen, he was always ready and willing to perform his whole duty; so at various times he was on school boards, juries, arbitration committees, and at any post where he could be of service to his fellow-citizens. Because of his ever readiness to assist others and his good judgment in business affairs he was often called "Judge Shofner" by his intimate friends.

Knowing his duty, he never shirked it, being either civil, political, military, or religious; and it can truly be said that the world was bettered by the life he lived. He was one of the pillars of the Lutheran Church in Tennessee, always giving liberally toward its support; and in his death the church sustained a great loss. As a fitting close to a treatise on the life of such a man, it is well that the obituary published at his death be reproduced here:

“Died—At his residence in Bedford County, Tenn., on the 6th day of January, 1857,—Mr. John Shofner; one of the early Pioneers of this State. Brother Shofner was born in North Carolina, on the 23d of February, 1787. When quite a young man, he came to this country in company with his father, and, although this was then an almost pathless wilderness, he selected him a home; returned to North Carolina, married, and came back with his wife in 1815. Here amid the wilds of a country uncultivated by civilized white or red men he made his mark as a man, a husband and a father. His influence deepened and widened as his years increased. He lived to a good old age, raised a large and respectable family, who, together with numerous friends, are now mourning their loss. But they sorrow not as those who have no hope. This aged father lived an exemplary member of the Lutheran Church for nearly fifty years. He was one of the men who did right, not merely because it was right so to do, but because he loved to do right from principle.

“He saw many changes take place even in the Agricultural and Commercial as well as the Political features of this country. When he first came, the country was without even a road; an Indian trail alone was the traveler’s guide from point to point; and sometimes not even that. But what is it now, as he dies in 1857? See, will you, the railroads have checked the State all over. He lived to see, emphatically, knowledge run to and fro; not only by steam and press, but he lived to know that electricity was taught to speak the English language.

“Having served his day and generation, God being pleased to release him from labour; his well tried spirit,

having long panted after God and heaven; as the hart panteth after the water brook; took its leave of earthly things; and, without a cloud, or shadow of a doubt, passed beyond the border that skirts this world. Farther we cannot now go, beyond this eye hath not seen. But we have heard, yes, Blessed be God, we have heard of a 'sun bright clime where age has no power over the fadeless fame of our loved ones.'

"O, may we not follow, if on fancy's wings, and see the good old Father in Israel, as he rises on the wings of love, see, as he sweeps the azure bosom of the starry sky, and explores each landmark on the distant shore; me thinks one beautiful star is seen amid the Heavenly constellation. And 'The nearer still he draws to land the more eager all his powers expand.' But O, I see the anchor drops. He is safe at home; and as the Husband and Wife meet, and sweetly blend in one perpetual bond of love and life; I must say, may the good Lord gather all the children into that same blessed home in Heaven where

" 'A holy quiet reigns around,

A calm which life nor death destroys;

And nothing disturbs that peace profound,

Which his unfettered soul enjoys.'

"A. H. B."



CHAPTER VII.

JOEL SHOFFNER.

Joel, the first child of John and Amelia Shofner, was born in Orange County, N. C., September 3, 1811. When about four years of age, his father and mother brought him to Bedford County, Tenn., and settled on Duck River. Here his boyhood days were spent, hunting and fishing and going to school, but devoting a large part of his time toward assisting his father in clearing the land and tilling the soil.

When about twenty years old, the desire to see the land of his forefathers turned his path toward North Carolina; and while there, he married on April 10, 1831, Matilda Shoffner, oldest daughter of Daniel Shoffner, he being a brother to Joel's mother, Amelia. After spending some time with his relatives there, he and his wife came to Tennessee, settling first in Carroll County; but in about 1838 they moved to Bedford County, buying a farm on Flat Creek and here locating permanently.

He was a successful farmer, raising principally cotton and operating a cotton gin for his own use and for the public in general. He was also engaged in the saw-mill and lumber business for several years.

When the Civil War broke out, two of his sons, John R. and Daniel P., joined the Confederate Army; and another son, Thomas J., joined the Federal forces. Two sons-in-law, Joseph B. Woosley and John C. Woosley,

joined the Southern cause; and another son-in-law, James S. Floyd, went to the Northern side. Later on in the war Michael R. joined the Union Army, making two brothers on one side and two on the other.

Joel and Matilda Shoffner reared a family of ten children—seven sons and three daughters—to manhood and womanhood; and all married except one, and seven reared families.

The first child, Flavella Jane Shoffner, was born in 1832, and, before she married, taught school in the little schoolhouse near her grandfather's home and at other places. In 1853 she married Joseph B. Woosley, who served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War. They moved to Union City after the war, where he engaged in the lumber business until he died, in 1901, and where his wife still lives. Two of their sons, Joel Walden and Samuel D., are now in business in Union City.

The second child and first son, Loton Davis Shoffner, was born in 1833, married Susie Roberts in 1855, and settled on Thompson's Creek. Although having a strong Union sentiment, he did not join either side; and in 1881 he died. His wife is still living on Thompson's Creek. Their four daughters grew to womanhood, married, and are now living with their families near the place of their birth.

The next son, John R. Shoffner, was born in 1835. He served in the Confederate Army, and at the close of the war married Hattie J. Locke; and after his death, in 1891, she located in Shelbyville, Tenn. A sketch of his life appears elsewhere.

The second daughter, Permelia Ann Shoffner, was

born in 1837. She married John C. Woosley, who served in the Confederate Army during the war, and is now a prosperous farmer of Bedford County. They have no children. In religious belief they belong to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and in politics Mr. Woosley is a Democrat.

Daniel Peyton Shoffner was born in 1839. In his young manhood he was engaged in the milling business in Bedford County for several years, after which he sold out and went to Union City, and pursued the same business there for quite a while. Fire destroyed his plant several times, but he would rebuild with renewed courage. He finally moved to Memphis, still following the same business, where he died in 1895, and was buried in that city. He served in the Confederate Army during the war. After the war, he married Mary Howard; and from this union there were three children, two now living and located in Memphis.

The sixth one is Martha (Mattie) Shoffner, who was married when quite young to James Floyd. After the war broke out, Mr. Floyd joined the Federal troops at Murfreesboro, where he died in 1863, and was buried in the National Cemetery near that place. From this union was born Jennie Floyd, who married Felix Z. King, a Cumberland Presbyterian minister, now located at Merced, Cal. After the death of Mr. Floyd, his widow married Charm T. Clay, a farmer of Bedford County, who died in 1900. From this union there were eight children, all living and six married. Tinie is teaching at Wheel, Tenn.; and John is managing the home farm for his mother.

Thomas J. Shoffner, the next, was born in 1844, and

reared in the Flat Creek vicinity. During the war he served in the Federal Army, participating in many hard-fought battles. Later he located in Union City, where he has been in the employ of the Singer Sewing Machine Company for several years. He is a Cumberland Presbyterian in religious belief and a Republican in political faith. In 1873 he married Sue Bradford, of Union City; and they have only one child, Allie Vista, who married Clarence Sherrell in 1893.

Michael Redin Shoffner was born in 1846. When very young, he joined the Federal Army, and served until the close of the war. He has been engaged in the milling business for several years, and is now connected with a lumber business in Union City. In 1869 he married Laura A. Pursley, and they have three children—Inez, who married a Mr. White, of Memphis; Kate, who married W. D. Coldwell, of Union City; and Michael Robbie, now located in Memphis.

The ninth, Martin Luther Shoffner, was born in 1848. He is now located at Newbern, Tenn., where he is preparing his celebrated "Shoffner's Sure Cure," with which he is having much success. In 1866 he married Mary Ann Hastings; and out of seven children born unto them, five are now living, all married except one. The chronological table elsewhere will give their names and present addresses.

Joel Edwin Shoffner, the youngest, was born in 1852; and just as he reached maturity he was called into the great beyond.

Joel Shoffner, the subject of this sketch, was a dear lover of music, both vocal and instrumental. In his earlier days he taught singing school. He would make

what was known in those days as a "dulcimer," and upon this he could make the sweetest music. In politics Joel Shoffner was a Whig, and in religion he belonged to the Lutheran Church. He died September 16, 1862, and was buried in the Shoffner burying grounds at Jenkins' Chapel. His good wife, Matilda, survived him until 1888, when she, too, passed over the river to join her husband on the other shore. Thus, out of a family of twelve, six have gone on to a "grand reunion," where there will be no more parting or saying farewell; and if those who are left behind will live such lives as those gone before, happy will they be when their blessed Master calls them home to that great reunion, where all can join in the praises of Him who gave his life that all might live.

REV. JOHN R. SHOFFNER.

(John R., grandson of John and Amelia Shofner and second son of Joel and Matilda Shoffner, was born in Carroll County, Tenn., November 24, 1835. He received his classical education at Bethel College, McLemoresville, Tenn. After returning to Middle Tennessee, he taught school for several years, and was quite successful. He was a citizen of his native State during the troublous times of our Civil War, going North soon after its close. Just before this he married Hattie J. Locke, March 29, 1868, Rev. William Jenkins officiating.

His first pastorate was at Anna, Ill., where he settled in the beginning of 1868, remaining until the spring of 1871. In May, 1871, having received a call from

Lionville, Chester County, Pa., he removed to that field, and there prosecuted the work of his high calling for five and a half years. In December, 1876, he took charge of St. Paul's Church, Berne, N. Y., where he remained for seven years, and then returned to Pennsylvania and became pastor of the Lutheran Church at Lewisburg. Here he remained only two years, when he accepted a call from Columbia, taking a mission church, where he remained three years. Then, in the autumn of 1888, he removed to Wilkesbarre, Pa., where his last work was completed. Here he died June 12, 1891.

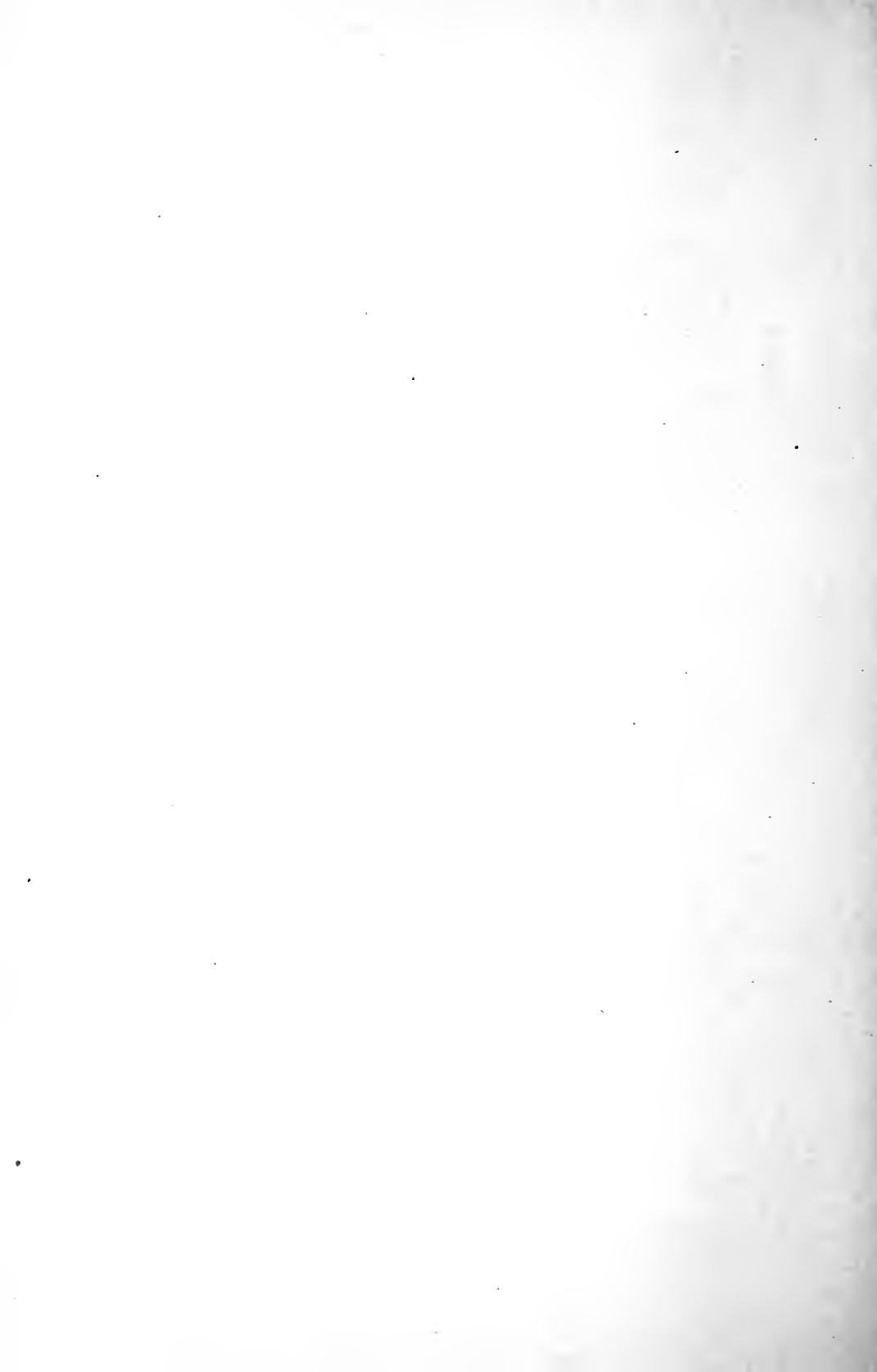
He loved to preach the gospel, and considered this to be his mission. His last public discourse was delivered in St. Matthew's Church, Lionville, Pa., Sunday, May 24, taking for a text on that occasion the words of St. Paul: "Now is our salvation nearer than when we believed." O, how little then did we realize his salvation was so near!

"God's ways are little known
To our weak, erring sight."

He rests from his labors, but his works will follow him. The seed of gospel truth sown by him will produce rich harvests for the heavenly garner long after his dust shall have returned to the earth. He was a faithful, laborious man, devoted thoroughly to his work. He was an earnest preacher and a workman not ashamed of his calling. He had prepared himself to preach the gospel, and he preached it solemnly and effectively; and the Master set his seal upon his efforts to win and build up souls for Jesus and his work.

John R. Shoffner was a man of piety, thoroughly hon-

est, faithfully performing every duty, a fast friend and a loving companion, as those who knew him best can attest. His end was peace. His remains rest in Willow Mount Cemetery, Shelbyville, Tenn., his native State, there to rest until that day when "the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible." Like the pilgrim far away from the home of his affections, he felt it was sweet to reach the haven of eternal repose.)



CHAPTER VIII.

COL. LOTON SHOFNER.

Loton, the second son of John and Amelia Shofner, was born in North Carolina in 1813, and was but two years old when his parents crossed the mountains with him and his brother, Joel, to make Tennessee their permanent home. His youthful days were spent on his father's farm, doing his part of the work and enjoying to the fullest extent his part of the sports and amusements of the times.

His father's house was very near a large canebrake, which was thickly inhabited by various kinds of snakes; and, as Loton would tell in his later years, they would have to shake the bed covers before retiring to make sure they were not sleeping with one or more of the snake tribe.

Loton lived with his parents, and assisted them every way he could until he was twenty-two years old, when he took unto himself a wife, Emily Brown, and went out into the world to make a home of their own. From this union two children were born, but both died in infancy; and the pleasures of a sweet home life were soon broken up, for his wife was called away in 1839.

He built on a farm adjoining his father's, and here he spent the remainder of his life. From this farm he gave to the Lutheran Church enough land adjacent to Jenkins' Chapel for a parsonage. Being a Lutheran

himself, he was always ready to do his part for his church.

In 1843 he married Sarah Elizabeth McQuiddy, and again he enjoyed a loving companionship; but it was only for a brief period, for in 1846 he was again left alone in the world, with the exception of a daughter born just before his second wife died. In this daughter, Sarah Elizabeth (so named for her mother), he centered all the hopes and joys of a fond parent; and the two lived happily together for twenty years. But during this time his widowed sisters, Martha and Jane, spent several years with him and his daughter; and his brother, Daniel, and wife spent one year with him. These did everything in their power to drive away the weary hours brought on by the loss of dearly beloved ones.

But just as the daughter bloomed into young womanhood he lost her, too, in matrimony; for she decided to leave the parental roof and assist in building a fire-side of her own. In September, 1866, Sarah Elizabeth was married to John W. Wells, who had just surrendered with the "lost cause," been mustered out, and returned home. In the course of time a son, Othniel D., was born; and in 1870 another son came, William Shofner. Upon these two grandchildren and their mother Loton Shofner bestowed all the parental love of his affectionate nature.

But this happiness was soon broken; for the grim reaper visited the home of Mr. Wells in September, 1873, and carried away the loving mother and the much-beloved wife and daughter. Thus left with but two grandchildren in his family, Loton Shofner directed his

affections all the more toward these two boys; and as time went on, he, with joyful eyes, saw them gradually grow into manhood. Then when Othniel married and two daughters came on, it was Loton's greatest delight to love and caress these children, for they were dear to his heart.

After the death of his first wife, John W. Wells married Miss Margaret Jenkins, daughter of Rev. William Jenkins and grand-daughter of Turley Euless, who was a sister to John Shofner. As his family after this marriage comes under another line of descent, which is in the hands of another committeeman, it is not traced further here.

The oldest son, Othniel D. Wells, married Irma Fay in 1888; and they, with their two daughters, Bessie and Mamie, now live in Nashville, where Mr. Wells is a building contractor.

William Shofner Wells, the second son, is in the fire-insurance business in San Francisco, Cal., where in 1899 he married Miss Marie Angelique Dutreux; and as a result of this union two sons were born, Loton Shofner (so named in honor of his great-grandfather) and William Bruce.

But the loneliness of Loton Shofner was not to continue always. After thirty-three years of single life, he married Mrs. Caroline Newton in 1879; and they lived happily together for twenty years, she surviving him three years.

In 1844 he was given a commission as colonel of militia by Gov. James C. Jones, and had under his command one of the strongest and best regiments in the State.

Colonel Shofner, in his latter years, would often talk to the school children at Butler's Creek; and his remarks were always listened to with eagerness, impressing them with truths that will last a lifetime. His favorite theme was "Temperance." He would relate to his young audience how that in the memorable Polk-Jones contests of 1841 and 1843 he would sit and listen to the forceful eloquence of "Lean Jimmy Jones" until he would feel like shouting. Then he would relate that Lean Jimmy became intemperate, which was finally his ruin. This, he said, should be a lesson and a warning to the rising generations; and he hoped and trusted that those under the sound of his voice would ever shun this great evil and, when they grew to be men and women, would do all in their power to remove this curse from the land.

Before the Civil War, Colonel Shofner was a Whig. In 1840 he supported William Henry Harrison; in 1848, Zachary Taylor. After the war, he affiliated with the Democratic party; but for several years before his death he voted the Prohibition ticket, and often made the remark that one thing could be truly said of him after he was gone, and that was that he fought liquor until his labors were ended.

Colonel Shofner died in 1899 at the advanced age of eighty-six years, and was interred in the family burying ground at Jenkins' Chapel.

Three years before Colonel Shofner's death, and at his dictation, Mr. John W. Ruth wrote an article on the history of the Shoffner family that was printed in the Bedford County Times in April, 1896. The article is here reproduced because of its historical worth.

CHAPTER IX.

A HISTORY OF THE SHOFFNER FAMILY IN TENNESSEE, BY COL. LOTON SHOFFNER.

The Shoffner family in Tennessee having now become so very numerous and no definite record of their origin having been preserved, I deem it my duty, as the oldest living member of the family and more fully conversant with the family history, to place in a convenient form my personal knowledge, believing it will be of interest to the younger members of the family, as well as a source of satisfaction to those yet in infancy or those unborn, to know their ancestors were of respectable origin and were good citizens, and helped to make the great nation and the Commonwealth which is our pride and the refuge of the oppressed.

My great-grandfather came from Germany, bringing with him his family, consisting of four sons—Michael, the eldest; George; Martin, my grandfather; and Peter, the youngest. Previous to taking passage he contracted to pay for their passage by labor to be performed after arrival. Michael, the eldest son, having been hired out to satisfy the debt, the family removed to North Carolina, settling in Orange County, the tendency of emigration being toward the Southern colonies. After Michael had satisfied the debt for which he had hired, he proceeded to join the family in North Carolina. Michael, George, and Martin Shoffner were actively en-

gaged as soldiers in the War of the Revolution, serving in the North Carolina line. I have often, during my boyhood, sat and listened to my grandfather as he told us the story of those troublous times. He was a man of wonderful physical strength and great activity, even down to old age. One story he told us illustrates his great strength. He was a member of a regiment of cavalry. On one occasion a regiment of infantry being encamped near them, they sent a challenge to the cavalry to bring out their best man for a trial of strength and skill in wrestling. Grandfather was selected to meet their champion, and, after a trial, came off victor.

My father, John Shoffner, came to Tennessee during the spring of 1806, in company with Clement and Newton Cannon, the latter afterwards becoming Governor of the State. They came on a surveying expedition. He remained about two years. On his return to North Carolina he married Amelia, the daughter of Michael Shoffner, on February 18, 1810. Michael and George Shoffner married and remained in North Carolina. Martin and Peter came to Bedford County, Tenn., in 1808. My father arrived in 1815. Grandfather and his brother, Peter, settled on Thompson's Creek. My father, John Shoffner, settled on Duck River, and died on the place he settled. He died January 6, 1857. He was born in Orange County, N. C., February 23, 1787. By his first marriage there were born in North Carolina two children—Joel, born in January, 1811; and myself, born December 26, 1813. There were born in Tennessee: Michael, who married Sophronia Morton; Polly, who married Thomas Boyers; Julia, who married George Morton; Daniel M., the youngest son,

who married Rachel Brittain; Martha, who married E. Bryant, then Mr. Motlow, then H. M. Dyer; Jane, who first married James Wardlow, then Wilford E. Coleman (by this marriage was born Mattie Coleman), then John Hester, her present husband. Some years after the death of my mother, my father married Mrs. Ibby Beavers; and by this marriage came John Clay Shoffner and Mrs. Belle Coleman.

The children of Martin Shoffner, my grandfather, were: Margaret, who married Philip Burrow; Turley, who married Adam Euleess; John Shoffner, my father; and Christian Shoffner, who married Elizabeth Jennings. He settled on Mulberry, in Lincoln County, where he died many years since, leaving some who bear his name. Then came Eve, who married William Holt, and Col. Fred. Shoffner, who married a Coble. Martin Shoffner died on the place he settled, now owned by Monroe, the youngest son of Austin Shoffner.

Now come my own family and descendants. I was married December 24, 1835, to Miss Emily Brown, who died August 10, 1839. On September 3, 1843, I was married to Miss Sarah Elizabeth McQuiddy, who died March 28, 1846. By this marriage came my only daughter who lived to the years of maturity—Sarah Elizabeth, born March 6, 1846; married to John W. Wells, September 2, 1866; and died September 4, 1873. By this marriage came Othniel, born January 12, 1868, and William S., born July 26, 1870. I was married to my present beloved companion on January 5, 1879.

I can but add to this record a few reflections. I have lived to more than the allotted age of man. I am patiently awaiting the summons that comes to all inevita-

bly. The consciousness of a life earnestly spent in an endeavor to live uprightly and to deal justly by all is worth more than all the world can give in return. I have lived more than three-fourths of my life in the same place, in sight of my boyhood home, the scene of so many pleasant recollections. Where I now live was a vast canebrake and dense forest. The river was then a clear, running stream, and teemed with fish. So very numerous were they that it required but an hour or two to catch enough by the hook to serve a large company. Now the most patience is required to catch within a day a like number, and then a failure is more than possible. On one occasion Col. Mat. Martin, Martin Eulless, and myself, being all striplings of young men, caught with a seine at the opening of the lake, or bayou, below my house, fifteen hundred fish—an utter impossibility now.

While the face of our country has changed, so have the people. Simple manners have given way to mere formality. But I am not one who would assert that the world has not grown better. As our ancestors had fewer temptations to evil, they had not the same need of constant watchfulness as is needful now that temptations have multiplied. Enlightenment has kept up with the world's material progress. As for myself, I have no complaint to make. My friends and my neighbors are faithful and kindly in their attention, and my old age is passed in serenity and quiet, awaiting the summons that comes to all.)

CHAPTER X.

MICHAEL SHOFFNER.

Michael, son of John and Amelia Shofner, was born and reared in Bedford County, Tenn., on his father's farm, near where Jenkins' Chapel now stands. His first school days were spent in a little log schoolhouse near his home, sitting on seats made of slabs or punch-eons, without backs to them. When he grew older, he walked three miles to school every day, and helped to do the chores in the mornings and evenings.

In 1839 he married Sophronia Morton, who made him a good wife; for she was an unusually industrious woman, and had a sweet disposition that made her loved by all. They reared their family on the farm where J. M. Shofner now resides, which is about six miles from Shelbyville.

When Michael went to Shelbyville, which was quite often, he would stay very late, it sometimes being after dark when he arrived home. Loton Shoffner, his eldest brother, was in town with him one day during the Civil War, and, being anxious to see him get home early one time, said to him, "Look here, Mike; I believe the rebels will capture the town before night;" and he was not long in starting home that day, arriving at three o'clock in the afternoon. Long afterwards he would laugh and say he came out on double-quick time.

He always had a kind word for the little children he

would meet; and they appreciated, honored, and loved him. He had a most pleasant disposition, was very jolly and good-natured, and every one enjoyed his conversations. Before the war he voted with the Whig party; and when that party disintegrated, he cast his lot with the Republicans.

He and his wife belonged to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at "Three Forks" for a number of years, but she finally moved her membership to the Lutheran Church then called "Cedar Hill;" but the church has been moved since, and is now known as "Jenkins' Chapel." They would often camp for weeks during the big "camp meetings" held in those days, erecting shanties and taking a cook and plenty of provisions along. One day the little boys, among them Hugh and Finis, were playing on top of the shanty, when Finis rolled off, but was not hurt badly, owing to the short distance. He claimed that the other boys pushed him off, but they would not acknowledge it.

Out of fifteen children born unto Michael Shoffner and his first wife, they reared four boys and seven girls. Jacob M. Shofner, the eldest son, served in the Confederate Army in Company A, Seventeenth Tennessee Infantry, under Captain Terry. Besides being a prosperous farmer, he was one of the promoters of the Bedford County Fair, and is now a large stockholder in the same. He was appointed by Governor Frazier as one of the World's Fair Commissioners to represent Tennessee at St. Louis. As a business man, he has been a success, and is now president of the Peoples' National Bank, of Shelbyville, Tenn. In 1862 he married Melissa E. Landis, and they now have three daughters—

Mrs. Charles Armstrong, Cairo, Ill.; Mrs. Emma Maupin, at home; and the youngest, Argie, married William P. Cooper, who is a prominent lawyer of Shelbyville, Tenn., and also a member of the Board of Aldermen.

John E. Shoffner, a namesake of his grandfather and the second of the four boys, is one of the directors in the Peoples' National Bank, of Shelbyville; is also a farmer on an extensive scale, owning a beautiful farm near the Wartrace and Shelbyville Pike; and is a stockholder in the Bedford County Fair Association. He has large tracts of timber lands in Virginia, where he is now operating several mills. In 1866 he married Mary E. Young, and has four sons and two daughters. Irene, who married A. F. Mullins, and Nina are both near Shelbyville. He has the four sons associated with him in his timber interests. Two, Eugene and Omar, are with him under the firm name of the Shoffner Hardwood Company, and located near Coeburn, Va. Eugene is also one of the firm of Shoffner & Ashley, Beech Grove, Tenn. Clarence and Clyde, together with their father, form the Shoffner Lumber Company, Honaker, Va., with shipping point "Shoffner," Va.

Hugh L., the third son of Michael Shoffner, is one of Bedford's most successful farmers, and is now living on a beautiful farm five miles from Shelbyville, on the Wartrace and Shelbyville Pike. He was one of the prime movers in getting up the Bedford County Fair, and takes a lively interest in all public enterprises. He married Bettie S. Young in 1876.

Finis E., the youngest of the four sons of Michael and Sophronia Shoffner, was born in 1850; and besides

operating a farm in Bedford County, he is now connected with a large lumber business in Virginia. He was a member of the Brownlow State Guards at the close of the war. He married Bettie Reaves in 1869, and has two children at home and three married.

Ann E., the oldest girl of Michael Shoffner, was married to Jordan Holt, who served in the Union Army during the Civil War, and was also a member of the Brownlow State Guards. They moved from Bedford County to Grapevine, Texas; and their children and grandchildren now reside in that State and Indian Territory.

Mary Jane Shoffner married Milton Phillips, who was a captain in the Federal Army, serving in the Fifth Tennessee. Horace, their eldest son, was a very studious boy; succeeded well in school; and afterwards taught school several years in Mississippi, where he died in 1891. Of the two children living, one is in Nashville, and the other in Columbus, Kan.

Emma Shoffner, the next daughter, married John Moore, who was Tax Assessor for several years in the Third District of Bedford County. Their oldest son, Arch S. Moore, is a partner in the lumber firm of Shoffner & Moore, Honaker, Va.

Christina Lee Shoffner married Maclin H. (Kie) Davis, who died in 1898. She now lives in Tullahoma, Tenn. Ewin, her oldest son, is a successful lawyer of Tullahoma, is chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of Coffee County, and was presidential elector for his district in the last election. Norman, the next son, lives in Cuba, where he owns a large orange grove.

Laura Shoffner married Morgan C. Webb in 1876. He is now a successful farmer, owning valuable lands on Duck River, four miles from Shelbyville, Tenn., where he and his family reside.

Jennie Shoffner married Gideon Brown in 1877, and moved to Missouri, where they lived until she died, in 1887. Their daughter, Jessie, now lives in Fulton, Mo.; and he and the other children are at De Vall's Bluff, Ark.

Cora Shoffner, the youngest of the seven girls, married Thomas B. Carpenter; and they now live in Galena, Kan., where he owns large mining interests. They have two daughters and one son.

Michael Shoffner's first wife, Sophronia, died in 1875; and in 1877 he married Harriet Berry, who survived him seven years.

Michael Shoffner died at the residence of his son, Hugh L. Shoffner, five miles east of Shelbyville, in 1892. His health had been failing for some months; but when his condition was seemingly improved, he was removed from his home at Tullahoma, Tenn., to his son's, with the hope that the change would be beneficial. He was born July 28, 1818, and was nearly seventy-four years old at the time he died. He was well and favorably known throughout his county and adjoining counties, was an active business man, and popular with everybody. His heart was full of generous impulses, and he had a smile and a kind word for every one. He was a ruling elder in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, and was true to his moral and religious convictions. Few men in this life have scattered more sunshine along the pathway of others than the beloved subject of this sketch.

CHAPTER XI.

MARY BOYERS.

Mary (Polly), the fifth child of John and Amelia Shoffner, was born February 29, 1820, she being the first daughter in the family. The birth of a daughter was hailed with great delight, and the glad father fired many salutes that were heard all over the neighborhood. She was reared on her father's farm, where in her early girlhood she showed a great liking for outdoor exercise, and would often roam over the cotton fields where her brothers were at work. At different times, of her own accord, she would lend a helping hand, and in return would receive a nice present from her father. Her education was such as people gave their children in those days.

At the age of eighteen she was married to Thomas Boyers, who came to Tennessee from Charlottesville, Va. On his arrival he spent a year or two at Winchester, and then went to Shelbyville to live. It was here that he met Mary Shoffner; and on their first meeting "Cupid" did his work well, for it was then that Mr. Boyers placed a beautifully carved gold ring on her finger. This ring she wore constantly; and it is yet in the possession of the family, and is held sacred in loving remembrance of the betrothal of Thomas Boyers and Mary Shoffner.

After their marriage, they lived in Shelbyville for a

number of years, where Mr. Boyers followed the tailor's trade. Afterwards he decided that his trade was injuring his health; so he went into the milling and lumber business, which he followed for several years, living during that time in different localities. He then bought a farm on Flat Creek; and there the remainder of his life was spent in a humble, but happy and congenial, home.

From this union nine children were born, all of whom grew to maturity, and eight are now living.

The first, John Boyers, was born in 1839; and in 1861 he enlisted in the First Tennessee Volunteers, and served in the Confederate Army during the full time of the war. He has followed the lumber and milling business for many years. In 1866 he married Letitia Landers.

The second child was Amelia A. Boyers, named for her grandmother, who was born in 1842. In 1875 she married James Price, who died in 1880. She then married John A. Silvertooth; and they located near Lynchburg, Tenn., where he died in 1892; but Mrs. Silvertooth still resides there.

The next, Fannie Boyers, was born in the year 1844, and married Albert G. McQuiddy. They now reside in Newton, Kan., and have four girls and three boys in their family.

Sandy Boyers, the fourth one, was born in 1847, and now resides at Hall's Station, Tenn. He married Lucy Curling, and from this union five children were born.

Sallie Boyers was born in 1850, and married Burrow Wells in 1872. They now live in Chattanooga. Six children were born to this union, two of whom have left

the parental home and are now at South Pittsburg, Tenn.

Mary E. Boyers, namesake of her mother, was born in 1853, and married James Silvertooth, of Lynchburg, Tenn., in 1886. From this union two children were born, but the mother died in 1893.

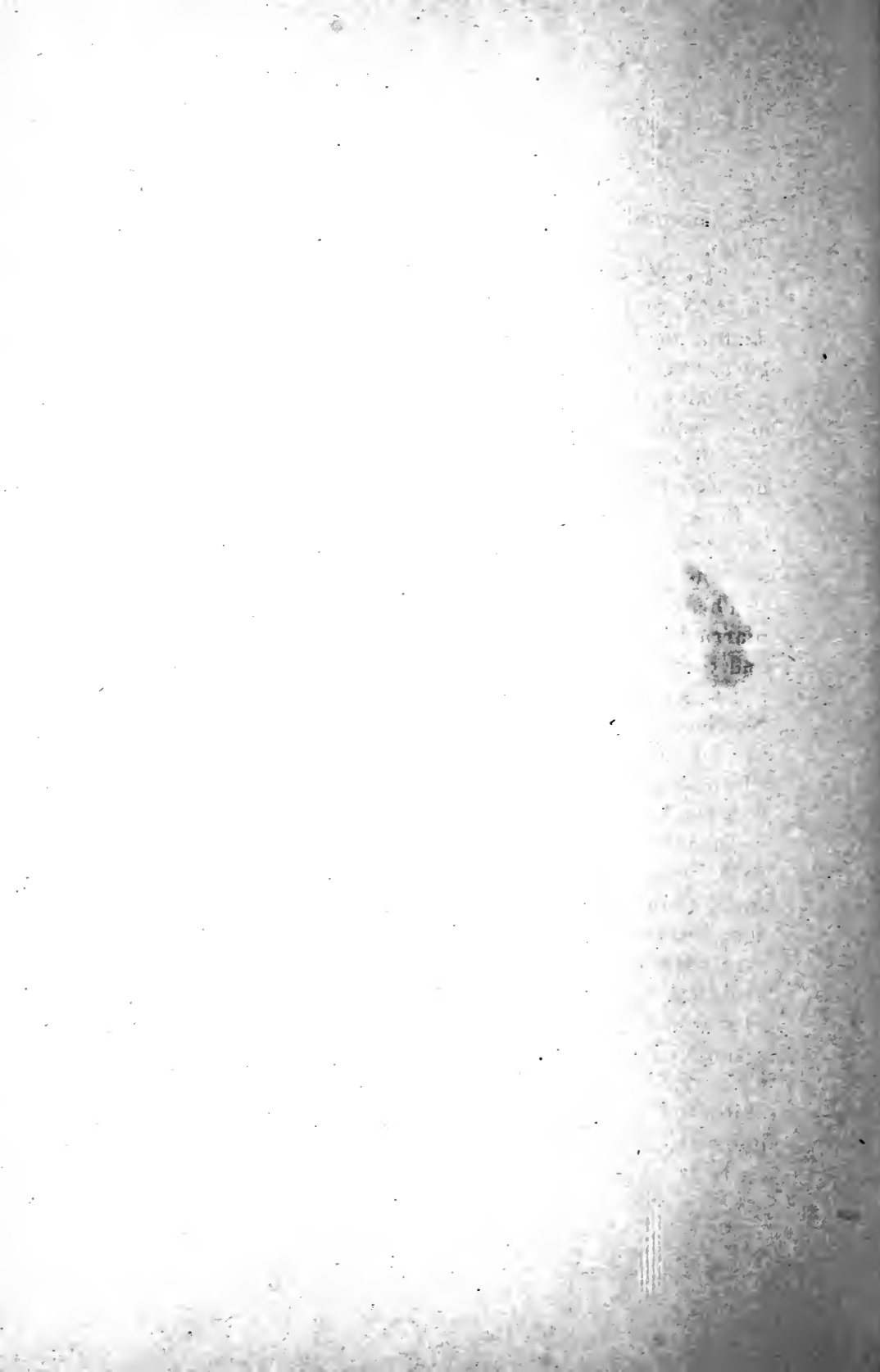
Hexley E. Boyers, born in 1856, is now located at Cowan, Tenn., where he has been engaged in a successful lumber business for several years. In 1888 he married Clara Bobo, and they have one son.

Minnie Boyers, born in 1859, married James Smoot in 1880. From this union eight children were born; and the parents now reside in Tullahoma, Tenn.

The youngest, Bettie Boyers, was born in 1862, and married J. D. Crabb in 1890. They have two children, and the family is now at Lake City, Fla.

In her early life the subject of this sketch, Mary Shoffner, united with the Lutheran Church; but after her marriage, she and her husband joined the Christian Church in Shelbyville, where they were consistent members the balance of their lives.

During the year 1868 Mr. Boyers died, leaving the wife, who survived him fourteen years, with several small children to rear, the youngest being six years of age; but with her energetic nature, she pressed onward, ever advising and teaching them to follow the right and avoid the wrong, and gave them all as good an education as was possible. In her family relations she exercised a noble influence; and she was the embodiment of activity, perseverance, and gentleness, and gave to her children and grandchildren an example of purity of home life that they will do well to follow.



CHAPTER XII.

JULIA B. MORTON.

Julia was born in Bedford County, Tenn., February 18, 1823. At the age of sixteen years she married George W. Morton, who owned a farm on Duck River near where she was born and reared. She and her husband were faithful members of the Lutheran Church, joining when very young. Her husband died in August, 1870, leaving her a widow with seven children, three of them being married at the time of his death. The remainder of her life was spent with her children; and at the time of her death she was living with her daughter, Ellen, at her old home place.

Her eldest child, William H. Morton, who was generally known as "Tip," was born November 13, 1839. When the Civil War broke out, he joined the Confederate Army. Before the war was over he married Lucy Arnold, and located on a farm near Wartrace, spending the remainder of his life there. He was a member of the Northern Methodist Church, and a Republican. He had two children—George Moody, who died when quite young, and James R. Morton. His wife died on March 26, 1899; and on September 8, 1901, he married the second time, to Nora Neal. In a few months after this marriage his health began to fail; and on July 19, 1902, he died. Just one month from his death his second wife died. James R. Morton, his only sur-

viving child, now resides near Wartrace on the old home place of his father. He is a Republican, is now an office holder in his district, and is a leading member in the Northern Methodist Church. In 1887 he married Miss Belle Koonce.

Sophronia, the second child and oldest daughter, was born on May 12, 1844, and married S. M. Holt on August 9, 1863. Mr. Holt was in the Union Army, where he served the full length of the war in the Fifth Tennessee Cavalry, receiving two wounds during his service. He now has a position as foreman of doors with the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railway, and lives in Nashville. Of the four living children, William is a building contractor, a member of the Episcopal Church, and now resides in Nashville. Lula, the only daughter, is the wife of a farmer, living near Normandy, Tenn., and is a member of the Northern Methodist Church. George is a physician, having graduated with honors at the University of Tennessee, but is prevented from practicing by a disability incurred in the line of duty in the hospital corps, United States Army. Sam. is a fireman on the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railway. Both of these boys saw service in the War with Spain—Sam., in the Second Tennessee Regiment, United States Volunteers; George, in the regular army.

James C. Morton, the third child, was born January 11, 1845. At the age of sixteen he joined the Confederate Army, serving until he received an honorable discharge. When nineteen years of age, he married Nan-nie C. Stokes, who died September 3, 1874. He married the second time to Bettie A. Thomas, and is now a

prosperous merchant of Petersburg, Tenn. He is a member of the Methodist Church, and a staunch Democrat. He now holds the offices of Notary Public, Magistrate, and Recorder. His first child, Annie, married John Jarman, and now lives near Wartrace; Arthur is bookkeeper for Dwight's Cotton Mills, Alabama City, Ala.; George is employed by the Cumberland Telephone Company, and now living at Winchester, Tenn.; Horace is overseer of the cloth room in Dwight's Mills, Alabama City, Ala.

Martha Jane Morton married N. S. McConnell, who is a farmer, now living near Wartrace, Tenn. She joined the Lutheran Church when quite young, but afterwards moved her membership to the Methodist Church at Haley, Tenn., where the remainder of the family belong. Fannie is at home with her parents; George has been playing professional ball for the last four years, and is now in the National League; James is a traveling salesman.

Ellen Morton, the fifth child, married A. D. McConnell, who is also a farmer and living near Wartrace. She is a member of the Lutheran Church. Bennie, their eldest child, was in the War with Spain, serving in the First Tennessee Regiment. While at home on a furlough, he died from the effects of a relapse from an illness contracted in the service.

Lee Morton, the fourth daughter, married Dennis Searcy, an employee on the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railway, and was a member of the Methodist Church. She died December 24, 1901, at her home near Wartrace. She was the mother of eight children. Robert is a fireman on the Nashville, Chattanooga and

St. Louis Railway, and lives at Wartrace. Moody is now in the Philippine Islands. He was in the regular army during the War with Spain, and is now on the police force in Manila. Oscar served in the First Tennessee during the Spanish-American War, and is now in the regular army in the Philippine Islands.

CHAPTER XIII.

DANIEL M. SHOFNER.

Daniel Martin, the youngest of the four boys of John and Amelia Shofner, was born in Bedford County, Tenn., on May 9, 1827. His early days were spent on his father's farm, the one now owned by Mrs. Margaret Wells. He attended school in the little log schoolhouse his father had built on his farm for the convenience of his and his neighbors' children.

Daniel was a quiet and studious boy, but one that could be depended on to do his part of whatever was to be done. He was peculiarly devoted to his mother; and when she had duties that kept her up late at nights, he was found by her side, rendering all the assistance he could possibly give. The death of his dear mother just as he reached young manhood was a sad blow to him.

In the year 1853 he married Emily Rachel Brittain, a young woman, who gladly shared his toils and hardships as well as his joys and comforts. The first year of their married life was spent in the home of his brother, Loton, where William W., his oldest son, was born. The next year they settled on a tract of land bought from his father's estate and adjoining the homestead of his brother, Michael. Here his family resided during the balance of his life, and there reared their children.

Although having a strong Union sentiment, he did

not join either side in the Civil War; but because of this sentiment his farm was often visited by the Confederate soldiers and relieved of such things as chickens, corn, hogs, cattle, and horses to such an extent that it took him several years to overcome this loss and get his farm back to the prosperous condition it was before the war.

Daniel and Rachel Shofner reared five children to maturity out of seven born unto them. Fannie died in infancy, and Robert E. died at the age of fourteen years.

The first son, William Watterson Shofner, was born October 16, 1854. After reaching manhood, he went to West Tennessee, where he spent several years. After that time, he located in Nashville, where he made an efficient officer on the police force for many years. From there he moved to Chattanooga, but now lives in Paducah, Ky. In 1883 he married Francis Ellen McGuire; and from this union nine children were born, eight of whom are living.

Mitchel B. Shofner, the next son, spent several years in West Tennessee, after which he located in Nashville, where he is now succeeding as a master wood workman.

The third son, Henry Gaston Shofner, is now located in Nashville, where he is a building contractor.

Samuel D. Shofner was a traveling salesman for A. M. Tennison Hardware Company, of Nashville, for several years, but is now in the hardware business for himself in Nashville.

Their only living daughter, Martha Amelia Shofner (so named for her aunt, Martha, and her grandmother, Amelia), was born in 1875. In 1901 she was married to John W. Wirsching, who is architectural draughtsman

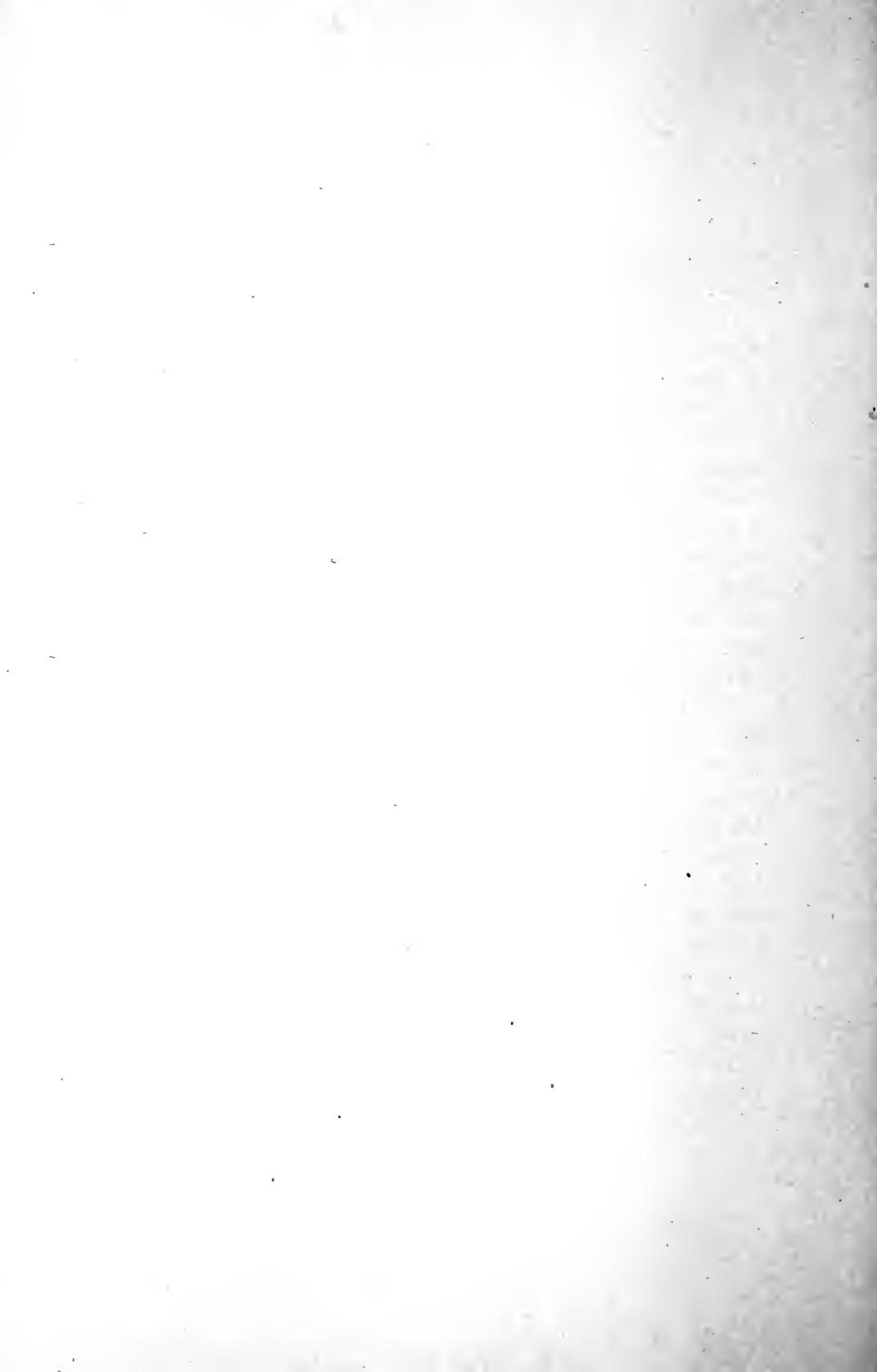
for the Edgefield and Nashville Manufacturing Company.

In politics Daniel M. (Dock) Shofner was a Whig before the war; and after that party went out, he cast his lot with the Republican party.

In religious belief he belonged to the church of his forefathers, the Lutheran, and was a member of the church council at Jenkins' Chapel for many years. He loved and was loved in return by the Lutheran pastor, Rev. John Boone, who spent many hours with him during his last illness, and conducted the funeral services. Daniel M. Shofner died on June 29, 1889, at peace with God and man, and was buried by the side of his departed son and daughter in the family cemetery at Jenkins' Chapel, given by his father many years before.

He lived as nearly up to the teachings of the Golden Rule as any one could. His name and his honor were above reproach. He had a love for learning above the average man, yet was always modest and unassuming. He was a man of high integrity, of refinement, and of culture, and was always ready to forgive a wrong or render a kindness to his fellow-man. He loved his home and his family, and was always patient, kind, and considerate. Truly, he was a Christian in the fullest sense of its meaning; and to-day he is surely waiting on the distant shore to give a glad hand of welcome, when the time comes, to those of his family left behind.

In about a year and a half after his death his family moved to Nashville, and there his wife and most of the children are now residing.



CHAPTER XIV.

MARTHA DYER.

Martha, the ninth child of John and Amelia Shofner, was born August 5, 1829. At about the age of seventeen she was married to Edwin L. Bryan, who was a cabinetmaker. They lived in Shelbyville and Nashville for about seven years. No children blessed their union; and on August 24, 1854, Mr. Bryan died.

After his death, she went to live with her brother, Loton Shofner, whose wife had died. Here she stayed about two years, when she again married, her husband this time being Mr. Felix Motlow, of Lynchburg, Tenn., he being several years her senior. He had a number of children, some grown and one small child—a boy whom she took to her heart and loved as her own; but he was taken from them by death in a few years.

Mr. Motlow was a large slave owner; and his wife, who was energetic and domestic in tastes and a fine example of the old-time country housewife, led quite an active life in supervising the work necessary for the maintenance of a large household. This being in the days when clothing was made at home for the most part, carding, spinning, and weaving, cutting and making of garments for so many slaves, as well as the family, formed no small part of the work.

There were grown daughters in the family not many years younger than Mrs. Motlow; and with these she

lived and labored very pleasantly and companionably, and entered into their lives as one of them, planning and working toward everything conducive to their pleasure and happiness. As they married and grandchildren were born, she, being naturally fond of the little ones, bestowed on them the affection of an own grandmother.

The Motlow home was noted far and wide for its old-time Southern hospitality, its bounteousness, and its jolly good cheer, and was quite a rendezvous for all the countryside. But in about fifteen years death entered the home of Martha Shofner again and widowed her heart and home, Mr. Motlow's death occurring February 23, 1872.

As in her first widowhood, she returned to the place of her birth and again took up her residence with Loton Shofner, where she remained for about two years. On February 10, 1874, she wedded Mr. W. H. Dyer, a widower, who lived a few miles from Shelbyville, on Sugar Creek. This union was particularly happy. Her age was somewhat more advanced now, and her life was not so active, but perhaps was more tranquil, peaceful, and protected than it ever had been; and this she appreciated all the more, because she had been broken up in her life plans several times. She was very devoted to Mr. Dyer, he being the very soul of kindness and consideration for her; and thus their lives, bound in mutual love, flowed on in this happy way for six or seven years, when God once more saw fit to place his hand of affliction on her, and she was the third time left a childless widow.

This time she again returned to the scenes of her childhood, and found hearts open to receive her in the

home of her widowed sister, Jane Coleman. Here she soon learned to love the only child in the home—Martha Coleman, her namesake—almost as well as if her own. She often said that her sense of loneliness in life would have been relieved, her griefs lessened, and her declining years brighter, had she been blessed with children of her own. Here the three lived happily together for five or six years, when Mrs. Coleman married and moved away, again leaving Martha Shofner broken up and without a home.

The doors of her brother Loton's house were the third time opened to her; and she again accepted and resided there a number of years, with the exception of a year or two spent in Shelbyville in the meantime.

At an early age she joined the church of her fathers, the Lutheran, and lived a consistent and helpful member; but after her marriage to Mr. Dyer, she placed her membership in his church, the Missionary Baptist, and remained with that church until a few years before her death, when she returned to the Lutheran. Just a few years before her death she moved to Rover, Tenn., to the home of Mr. J. W. Hester, who had married her sister, Mrs. Coleman, to again be welcomed into the family of her sister and niece.

On August 8, 1899, at the age of seventy years, God called her home. She was both fortunate and unfortunate in life—fortunate, after having been bereaved so many times, to find kind hearts and homes to receive her, so she would not have to cast her lot among strangers—a thing she very much disliked, for the love of blood and family was strong within her.

CHAPTER XV.

JANE HESTER.

Emily Jane, daughter of John and Amelia Shofner, was born July 3, 1834. Being the youngest living child in the family, she had a rather careful girlhood, and was somewhat the pet of the home. At the age of fourteen the father and mother took her to visit their Shofner relatives in Orange County, N. C., the trip being made by carriage and taking two weeks each way. A month was spent among relatives and friends, and she remembers now having visited an old battlefield of the Revolution.

At the age of twenty-two she married James M. Wardlow, of Shelbyville, Tenn., April 24, 1856. He was a teacher; so they lived at several different places. In about two years a daughter, Emma, was born unto them. In a few years they bought a farm at Roseville, Tenn., where they resided for some time; but the home was to be broken, for on October 4, 1860, Mr. Wardlow died. His wife then went to live with her brother, Loton Shofner, and his daughter, Bettie, where she remained about ten years. During this time little Emma died, leaving her entirely alone in the world.

On November 29, 1871, she was married to Wilford E. Coleman, a widower, having one grown son, Alex. Mr. Coleman resided on a farm adjoining Mullins' Mill. Now, after ten lonely and unhappy years, she was very

appreciative of the love and kindness shown her in this home; and this was, perhaps, the happiest period of her whole life. On October 27, 1872, a daughter, Martha Wilford, was born unto them. Shortly after this time Alex. Coleman married Annie Belle Shofner, a half sister to Mrs. Coleman; and they formed a part of the household for a time. But the life of Jane Shofner was not destined to move on in this happy way; and on April 11, 1879, she was the second time left a widow with one child. Within a few months she moved to Shelbyville, and for one year lived with her sister-in-law, Miss Sarah Wardlow; but at the end of that time she and her daughter returned to the farm they had shortly before left. Here they were soon joined by her widowed sister, Martha Dyer; and thus five or six years passed by quietly and uneventfully.

In February, 1886, Mrs. Coleman married Mr. J. W. Hester, of Rover, Tenn., where she, her husband, and her daughter are at present living.

When quite young, Jane Shofner joined the Lutheran Church, and remained with it until her marriage with Mr. Coleman, when she joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, with him; and her membership still rests with that body.

Her only living child, Martha W. (Mattie) Coleman, is a most devoted daughter, whose parental love is an anchor for the hopes, love, and joys of a mother in the evening of life. Not only has this daughter been as a ministering angel to her mother's life, but she was a constant, affectionate companion of her Aunt Martha and Uncle Loton when the grim reaper visited their

respective homes and claimed their loved ones. She it was who assisted so nobly in transforming their dark hours into noonday and brought lasting sunshine into their lives.

CHAPTER XVI.

THE SECOND MARRIAGE.

Annie Belle, the first child born to John Shofner after his marriage to Mrs. Isabella Beavers, was born on April 26, 1852, and lived to young womanhood near the place of her birth. At the age of twenty-one years she married Alexander E. Coleman, and continued to live in the Shofner community until after the birth of her first child, Paul Shofner Coleman, who was born June 29, 1877.

Soon after this the husband and wife moved to West Tennessee, where the young husband was stricken with fever and only lived to get home to die. This was August 31, 1880; and he died at the home of his wife's mother, who had married William Wilhoit after the death of her second husband, John Shofner.

In the meantime, on November 11, 1879, a second child was born to Alexander E. and Annie Belle Coleman—a daughter, Pierre Allen. After the husband's death, the wife began the struggle to rear the two children left to her care. While not left entirely without means, the young mother of twenty-six years realized that it had fallen to her lot alone to rear these two babes; and ambitious and ever alert for their welfare and comfort, she never "ate the bread of idleness," but was ever up and doing, always adding to the means left her, until the panic of 1893, when all was lost. Then

the young son started out to support the young sister and mother, and the noble manner he met these responsibilities was best attested by his watchful care for several years. He also worked his own way into a profession, and is now a successful dentist in Wilburton, I. T.

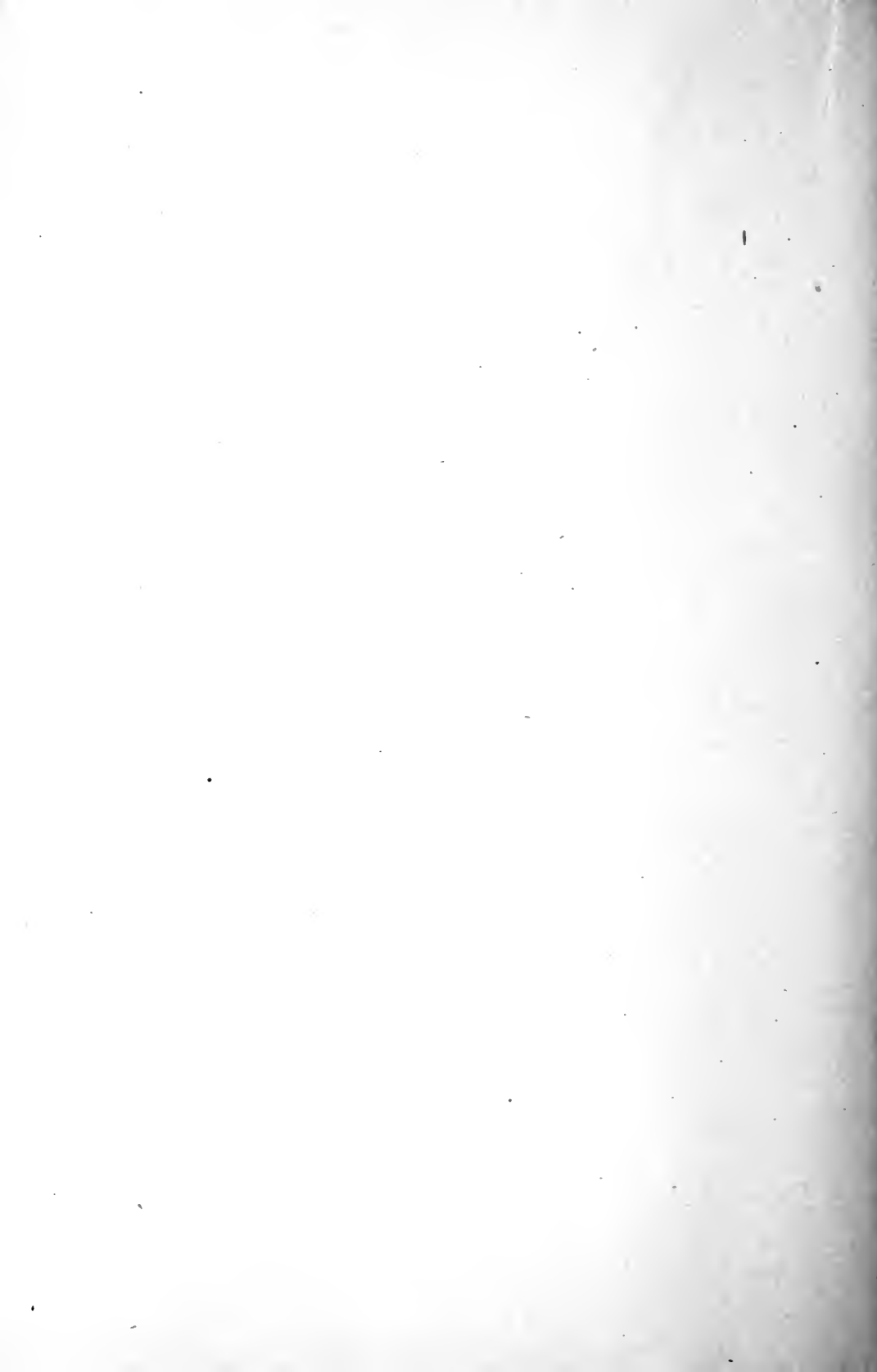
The second child, Pierre Allen, was married in Shelbyville, Tenn., on May 15, 1900, to Joseph L. Hutton, who is now cashier of the Phoenix Bank, of Columbia, Tenn. Of this union there is one child—Josephine, born August 6, 1901.

Mrs. Annie Belle Coleman is now living with her daughter, Mrs. Hutton, at Columbia, Tenn.

John Clay Shofner, born October 10, 1854, was the only son and second child of John Shofner after his second marriage. Being left without a father's love and care almost in infancy, responsibilities fell on him early in life. He grew to young manhood on the farm; and later, when still a very young man, he entered business in Shelbyville, which was more or less successful. Later, when wanting a broader field for his work, he moved to Nashville, where to-day he is one of the leading business men of that city.

He is a member of the First Presbyterian Church, of Nashville, as is also his wife. He is charitable, being ever ready to help those in trouble; and he is a man who strengthens in Christianity as years are added to his life. He married Miss Julia Neil, of Shelbyville, in his early manhood, only one child being born to this union—Brenda Neil, who died in infancy.

PART II.



A CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY

OF THE DESCENDANTS OF JOHN SHOFNER, FIFTH
CHILD OF MARTIN SHOFNER, WHO WAS THE
THIRD SON OF MICHAEL SHOFFNER, WHO
CAME FROM GERMANY ABOUT 1760, LAND-
ING AT PHILADELPHIA, AND THEN
LOCATED IN NORTH CAROLINA.

An outline of "The Pioneer Shoffners" is given in order to trace the lineage back to the first family of the name to settle on American soil. Then, beginning with John and Amelia Shofner, who married in 1810, we have endeavored to trace out every descendant and give dates of births, deaths, marriages, and location, on down to the present.

Abbreviations are used wherever practical, as "b" for born, "d" for died, "m" for married, "m¹" for married first, etc. Following the name and birth will be found the present address in parenthesis.

The children of John and Amelia Shofner are numbered with the Roman notation and go from I. to XII., and the children of John and Isabella Shofner run from XIII. to XV., inclusive. Then ten spaces to the right and two spaces below each other will be found the grandchildren of John Shofner numbered by capitals, thus "(A)," "(B)," etc.; and this list includes 53 names. Ten spaces farther to the right and marked "(1),"

"(2)," etc., will be found the great-grandchildren of John Shofner; and these number 167 in all. Still farther to the right ten spaces you will find the great-great-grandchildren designated by "(a)," "(b)," etc.; and these number 164 on this list. Only one great-great-great-grandchild is recorded.

To sum up, by counting those who married into the family, we would have, besides the 15 children and their wives and husbands (numbering 17), 96 grandchildren, 239 great-grandchildren, and 166 great-great-grandchildren—making a grand total of 534 names on the list of the descendants of John Shofner. On this list will also be found the record of 128 marriages, the births of 409 children, and the deaths of 119 people, leaving a balance of 415 persons as the living descendants of John Shofner. The list of different surnames of those marrying into the family numbers 104, and there are 14 States and Territories represented.

At the last of the chronological table is appended a diagram showing four brothers of the Shoffner name for five generations.

"THE PIONEER SHOFFNERS."

MICHAEL SHOFFNER, the first settler, b 1721, d 1810.

I. Michael Shoffner, b 1752, d 1820.

- (1) Eve Robinson, remained in N. C.
- (2) Michael Shoffner, remained in N. C.
- (3) Polly McMurry, remained in N. C.
- (4) Daniel Shoffner, settled in West Tenn.
- (5) Amelia Shoffner, married John Shofner and came to Tenn.

II. George Shoffner, remained in N. C.

III. Martin Shoffner, b 1758, d 1838, came to Tenn. 1808.

- (1) Margaret Burrow.
- (2) Turley Euleess.
- (3) Eve Holt, then Muse.
- (4) Christian Shoffner, settled in Lincoln Co.
- (5) John Shofner, settled in Bedford Co. 1815,
whose descendants are on the
following pages.
- (6) Sallie Dean.
- (7) Frederick Shoffner.
- (8) Austin Shoffner.
- (9) Polly Brown, then Thomas, removed to
Texas, no children.
- (10) Lizzie Shoffner, died young.

IV. Peter Shoffner.

V. Magdalena Shoffner, m Anthony.

JOHN SHOFNER, b 1787, d 1857.

m¹ Amelia Shoffner, 1810 (d 1849).

I. Joel Shoffner, b 1811, d 1862.

m Matilda Shoffner, 1831 (d 1888).

(A) Flavella Jane Shoffner, b 1832 (Union City, Tenn.).

m Joseph B. Woosley, 1853 (d 1901).

(1) Harry Woosley, b 1854, d 1856.

(2) Nannie Viola Woosley, b 1856 (Union
City, Tenn.).

m Henry Little, 1878 (d 1892).

(a) Marlon Little, b 1879 (Union
City, Tenn.).

Shoffner History.

- (b) William B. Little, b 1880 (New York).
- (c) Nannie Evelyn Little, b 1882 (Chicago).
 - m J. J. Sherrill, 1902.
- (d) Henry Little, Jr., b 1884 (Union City, Tenn.).
- (3) Joel Walden Woosley, b 1861 (Union City, Tenn.).
- (4) Samuel D. Woosley, b 1867 (Union City, Tenn.).
 - m Lula Mathes, 1894.
 - (a) Margaret Woosley, b and d 1897.
 - (b) Gerald Mathes Woosley, b 1899.
 - (c) Emily Woosley, b 1903.
 - (d) Flavella Woosley, b 1904.
- (5) Norma Ann Woosley, b 1870 (Effingham, Ill.).
 - m Felix A. Raymer, 1892.
 - (a) Minette W. Raymer, b 1893.
 - (b) Gladys Raymer, b 1895.
 - (c) Felix Raymer, Jr., b 1899.
- (B) Loton Davis Shoffner, b 1833, d 1881.
 - m Susie Roberts, 1855 (Haley, Tenn.).
 - (1) James Leonidas Shoffner, b 1857, d 1862.
 - (2) Viva Jane Shoffner, b 1860 (Haley, Tenn.).
 - m¹ Alfred T. Prince, 1884 (d 1888).
 - (a) Hoyt C. Prince, b 1885.
 - m² J. W. Brinkley, 1892.
 - (b) Jo. D. Brinkley, b 1894.
 - (c) Lota May Brinkley, b 1896.
 - (3) Madora Shoffner, b 1862.
 - m Grason Shearin, 1880.
 - (a) Walter E. Shearin, b 1882.
 - m Nora Agnes Shoffner, 1904.
 - (a¹) H a y w o o d Shoffner Shearin, b 1905.
 - (b) Arthur C. Shearin, b 1884.
 - (c) Annie May Shearin, b & d 1890.
 - (d) Willie S. Shearin, b 1893.
 - (e) Charles E. Shearin, b 1895.

- (4) Mary E. Shoffner, b 1868.
 m Henry C. Bearden, 1885.
 (a) Victor Leland Bearden, b 1887.
 (b) James L. Bearden, b 1891.
- (5) Brightie Pearl Shoffner, b 1877.
 m W. E. Hitt, 1894.
 (a) Bonnie Vesta Hitt, b 1896.
 (b) Arlie Hitt, b 1903.
- (C) John R. Shoffner, b 1835, d 1891.
 m Hattie J. Locke, 1868 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
- (D) Permelia Ann Shoffner, b 1837 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
 m John C. Woosley, 18—.
- (E) Daniel Peyton Shoffner, b 1839, d 1895.
 m Mary Howard, 1865.
 (1) Ella Vesta Shoffner, b 1866, d 186—.
 (2) Florence Shoffner, b 1869 (Union City, Tenn.).
 m James Clinton Harris, 1886 (d 1895).
 (a) Mary Harris, b 1889.
 (b) Clint. Shoffner Harris, b 1891, d 1892.
 (c) "J. C." Harris } Twins, b 1893.
 (d) "W. T." Harris }
 (e) Daniel Peyton Harris, b 1895, d 1897.
- (3) Lotta Dana Shoffner, b 1871.
 m Dr. William M. Turner, 1898.
 (a) Mary-Howard Turner, b 1899.
 (b) William M. Turner, Jr., b 1900.
 (c) Margaret Turner, b 1902.
- (F) Martha Matitia (Mattie) Shoffner, b 1842 (Bedford, Tenn.).
 m¹ James Floyd, 1861 (d 1863).
 (1) Jennie Floyd, b 1863 (Merced, Cal.).
 m Felix Z. King, 1886.
 (a) Ruby King, b and d 1887.
 (b) Hollis Ewing King, b 1888.

Shoffner History.

- (c) John Stanley King, b 1892.
 - (d) Katie Ruth King, b 1894.
 - (e) Annie Louise King, b 1898.
- m² Charm T. Clay, 1868 (d 1900).
- (2) Carrie Lula Clay, b 1870 (Chapel Hill, Tenn.).
 - m Sam. J. Blackwell, 1888.
 - (a) Gertie F. Blackwell, b 1890.
 - (b) Flora E. Blackwell, b 1892.
 - (c) Sam. Hoyt Blackwell, b 1895.
 - (d) Bonnie Kate Blackwell, b 1897.
 - (3) Francis Ernestine Clay, b 1873 (Bedford, Tenn.).
 - (4) Edmund M. Clay, b 1875 (Lewisburg, Tenn.).
 - m Mattie Belle Liggett, 1897.
 - (a) Violet Leon Clay, b 1898.
 - (b) Leslie Morris Clay, b 1900.
 - (c) Herbert Henry Clay, b 1902.
 - (d) John Rolly Clay, b 1904.
 - (5) Virginia Ann Clay, b 1877.
 - (6) John Chamberlin Clay, b 1879 (Bedford, Tenn.).
 - (7) Margie M. Clay, b 1881 (Bon Air, Tenn.).
 - m Will. T. King, 1898.
 - (a) Avis Shoffner King, b 1900.
 - (8) Lillian Matilda Clay, b 1883 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
 - m John H. Blackwell, 1902.
 - (9) Auda Lee Clay, b 1886 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
 - m Marvin Williams, 1903.
- (G) Thomas J. Shoffner, b 1844 (Union City, Tenn.).
- m Sue Bradford, 1873.
 - (1) Allie Vista Shoffner, b 1874.
 - m Clarence Sherrell, 1893.
 - (a) Edith L. Sherrell, b 1898.

(H) Michael Redin Shoffner, b 1846 (Union City, Tenn.).

m Laura Addie Pursley, 1869.

(1) Inez Moss Shoffner, b 1870 (Union City, Tenn.).

m T. C. White, 1894.

(a) Shoffner Thompson White, b 1896.

(b) Louise Thornwell White, b 1898.

(c) Mary Fancis White, b 1901.

(2) Kate Malone Shoffner, b 1876 (Union City, Tenn.).

m W. D. Coldwell, 1896.

(a) Ralph Morrison Coldwell, b 1899.

(b) Addie Byron Coldwell, b 1900.

(3) Michael Robbie Shoffner, b 1882 (Memphis, Tenn.).

(I) Martin Luther Shoffner, b 1848 (Newbern, Tenn.).

m Mary Ann Hastings, 1866.

(1) Tommie Gordon Shoffner, b 1867, d 1878.

(2) Lula Jane Shoffner, b 1869 (Senatobia, Miss.).

m John M. Taylor, 1886.

(a) Annie Lee Taylor, b 1887.

(b) John Milton Taylor, b 1889.

(c) Mary L. Taylor, b 1890, d 1891.

(3) Joel Robert Shoffner, b 1871 (Paducah, Ky.).

m Lura Hurt, 1897.

(a) Mary Amanda Shoffner, b 1898.

(b) Joel Shoffner, b 1899, d 1900.

(4) Matilda Nancy Shoffner, b 1873 (Halls, Tenn.).

m Tollie L. Stephens, 1888.

(a) George J. Stephens, b 1889.

(b) Myrtle A. Stephens, b 1890, d 1891.

(c) } Twin boys, b and d 1892.

(d) }

(e) Joel O'Dell Stephens, b 1894.

Shoffner History.

(5) Sallie Dear Shoffner, b 1875 (Trimble, Tenn.).

m M. L. Pierce, 1889.

(6) Mary Bessie Shoffner, b 1877, d 1902.

(7) Martin Luther Shoffner, Jr., b 1886.

(J) Joel Edwin Shoffner, b 1852, d 1872.

II. Loton Shoffner, b 1813, d 1899.

m¹ Emily Brown, 1835 (d 1839).

(A) Mary Shoffner, b and d 1836.

(B) Caldonia Shoffner, b and d 1838.

m² Sarah Elizabeth McQuiddy, 1843 (d 1846).

(C) Sarah Elizabeth Shoffner, b 1846, d 1873.

m John W. Wells, 1866 (d 1894).

(1) Othniel D. Wells, b 1868 (Nashville, Tenn.).

m Irma Fay, 1888.

(a) Bessie Wells, b 1889.

(b) Mamie Wells, b 1895.

(2) William Shofner Wells, b 1870 (San Francisco, Cal.).

m Marie Angelique Dutreux, 1899.

(a) Loton Wells, b 1901.

(b) William Bruce Wells, b 1904.

m³ Caroline Newton, 1879 (d 1902).

III. Laban Shoffner, b 1816, d 1821.

IV. Michael Shoffner, b 1818, d 1892.

m¹ Sophronia E. Morton, 1839 (d 1875).

(A) Ann E. Shoffner, b 1839, d 1883.

m¹ Joshua Hicks, 1859 (d 1861).

m² Jordan Holt, 1864 (d 1886).

(1) Fannie L. Holt, b and d 1865.

- (2) Michael L. Holt, b 1867 (Guion, Texas).
 - m Mary T. Greer, 1889.
 - (a) Nettie A. Holt, b 1890.
 - (b) Mary L. Holt, b 1891.
 - (c) Clara B. Holt, b 1894.
 - (d) Carde D. Holt, b 1896.
 - (e) Mills L. Holt, b 1898.
 - (f) Ina V. Holt
 - (g) Nina V. Holt
 - (Twins, b 1900.
- (3) Addie E. Holt, b 1869 (Mead, I. T.).
 - m John A. Glover, 1885.
 - (a) Luther Oscar Glover, b 1887,
d 1890.
 - (b) Nellie Ann Glover, b 1890.
 - (c) Bettie Octava Glover, b 1893.
 - (d) Joe Theodore Glover, b 1896,
d 1898.
 - (e) Katie Ruthey Glover, b 1899.
 - (f) Lillian Gladis Glover, b 1903.
- (4) Mary J. Holt, b 1870, d 1899.
 - m M. Lambert, 1885 (Paradise, Texas).
- (5) John M. Holt, b 1873, d 1874.
- (6) Cora A. Holt, b 1874, d 1876.
- (7) Joe V. Holt, b 1876 (Guion, Texas).
 - m Mary L. Nelson, 1900.
 - (a) J. Overton Holt, b 1903.
- (8) Sallie Bettie Holt, b 1880 (Guion, Texas).
 - m J. M. Love, 1898.
 - (a) Leroy Love, b 1900.
 - (b) Emma Love, b 1902.
- (9) Emma C. Holt, b 1882, d 1884.
- (B) Jacob M. Shofner, b 1841 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
 - m Melissa E. Landis, 1862.
 - (1) Alice Shofner, b 1863.
 - m¹ R. D. King, 1884 (d 1895).
 - (a) Hoyt King, b 1885, d 1902.
 - (b) Morton King, b 1887.

Shoffner History.

- (c) Reddin Douglas King, b 1892,
d 1896.
- m² Charles H. Armstrong, 1897 (Cairo,
Ill.).
- (2) Emma Shofner, b 1864 (Shelbyville,
Tenn.).
- m E. B. Maupin, 1884 (d 1900).
- (a) Edward B. Maupin, b 1886.
- (3) Edna Shofner, b 1867, d 1868.
- (4) Argie Shofner, b 1873 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
- m William P. Cooper, 1894.
- (a) William Prentice Cooper, b 1895.
- (b) Mildred Cooper, b and d 1898.
- (C) Mary Jane Shoffner, b 1843, d 1873.
- m Milton Phillips, 1859 (d 1887).
- (1) Horace J. Phillips, b 1860, d 1891.
- m Bessie Beacham, 1885.
- (a) Reverdy Shoffner Phillips, b
1887, d 1891.
- (2) Florence Phillips, b 1865 (Columbus,
Kan.).
- m James J. Goodpasture, 1884.
- (a) Maurice Elmer Goodpasture, b
1886.
- (b) Mary Adelaide Goodpasture, b
1888.
- (c) Wright Irl Goodpasture, b 1890.
- (d) Hugh Shoffner Goodpasture, b
1893.
- (e) Lola Ethel Goodpasture, b 1896.
- (f) Lucile Goodpasture, b 1898.
- (3) Ida L. Phillips, b 1867 (Nashville, Tenn.).
- m Lan Cox, 1887.
- (a) Charlie Cox, b 1888.
- (b) Maggie Cox, b 1891.
- (c) Allie Cox, b 1893.
- (d) Herbert Cox, 1895.
- (e) Gertrude Cox, b 1900.
- (f) — Cox, b 1902.

- (4) Mikie S. Phillips, b and d 1870.
- (5) Hugh W. Phillips, b 1872, d 1890.
- (D) Emma A. Shoffner, b 1845 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
 - m John F. Moore, 1861 (d 1905).
 - (1) Arch. S. Moore, b 1862 (Beech Grove, Tenn.).
 - m Lucy Ashley, 1888.
 - (a) Ashley Moore, b 1889.
 - (b) Shofner M. Moore, b 1892.
 - (c) Norman Moore, b 1895.
 - (2) Mary Moore, b 1864 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
 - m Taylor Cannon, 1886.
 - (a) Everett Cannon, b 1888.
 - (b) Alberta Cannon, b 1890.
 - (c) Mike Cannon, b 1892.
 - (d) Wilburn Cannon, b 1894.
 - (e) Jennie Cannon, b 1896.
 - (f) Eula Cannon, b 1898.
 - (g) Lucy Evaline Cannon, b 1903.
 - (3) Mike Shofner Moore, b 1866, d 1890.
 - (4) Nannie Y. Moore, b 1869 (Beech Grove, Tenn.).
 - m William M. Ashley, 1891.
 - (a) Emma C. Ashley, b 1895.
 - (5) Freddie E. Moore, b 1871, d 1874.
 - (6) Jennie A. Moore, b 1873, d 1896.
 - m John G. Keeling, 1895.
 - (7) Andrew M. Moore, b 1875 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
 - (8) Hugh L. Moore, b 1878 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
 - (9) Myrtle E. Moore, b 1884 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
 - (E) John E. Shoffner, b 1847 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
 - m Mary E. Young, 1866.
 - (1) Madora Shoffner, b 1868, d 1873.

Shoffner History.

- (2) Eugene B. Shoffner, b 1870 (Beech Grove, Tenn.).
 - m Evie M. Ashley, 1893.
 - (a) Jeanette Shoffner, b 1894.
 - (b) Paul Shoffner, b and d 1896.
 - (c) Sadie Mae Shoffner, b 1897.
- (3) Clarence L. Shoffner, b 1873 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
 - m Bessie Beatrice Glascock, 1903.
 - (a) Hazel Lee Shoffner, b 1904.
- (4) Irene Shoffner, b 1875 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
 - m Albert F. Mullins, 1893.
 - (a) Alric F. Mullins, b 1896.
 - (b) James Eugene Mullins } Twins,
 - (c) Mamie Irene Mullins } b 1899.
- (5) Clyde H. Shoffner, b 1877 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
 - m Marie D. Ashley, 1899.
 - (a) Rubie May Shoffner, b 1903.
- (6) Omar Shoffner, b 1880 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
 - m Eoline Walters, 1904.
- (7) Nina Shoffner, b 1884 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
- (F) Hugh L. Shofner, b 1848 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
 - m Bettie S. Young, 1876.
 - (1) Infant son, b and d 1878.
 - (2) Infant son, b and d 1888.
 - (3) Infant son, b and d 1890.
 - (4) Elsie Shofner, b and d 1895.
- (G) Finis E. Shofner, b 1850 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
 - m Bettie Reaves, 1869.
 - (1) Ruthie A. Shofner, b 1870 (Murfreesboro, Tenn.).
 - m John W. Harris, 1888.
 - (a) Edwin Thomas Harris, b 1889.
 - (b) Alma A. Harris, b 1890.

- (c) "L. D." Harris, b 1892.
- (d) John William Harris, b 1893.
- (e) Zora Agnes Harris, b 1895.
- (f) Bordie Lee Harris, b 1897.
- (g) Johnnie Alice Harris, b 1898.
- (h) Chanie Elizabeth Harris, b 1900.
- (2) Ada E. Shofner, b and d 1873.
- (3) Ernest J. Shoffner, b 1874 (Shelbyville,
Tenn.).
 - m Ethel Erwin, 1903.
 - (a) Georgia Catherine Shoffner, b
1904.
- (4) William Verner Shofner, b 1877, d 1880.
- (5) Nora Agnes Shofner, b 1880 (Shelbyville,
Tenn.).
 - m Walter Shearin, 1904.
- (6) Mary Lee Shofner, b and d 1883.
- (7) Gracie G. Shofner, b 1885 (Shelbyville,
Tenn.).
- (8) Walter Mike Shofner, b 1890 (Shelby-
ville, Tenn.).
- (H) Martha W. Shofner, b 1851, d 1854.
- (I) James J. Shofner, b and d 1853.
- (J) Christina L. Shoffner, b 1854 (Tullahoma, Tenn.).
 - m Maclin H. Davis, 1872 (d 1898).
 - (1) Ewin L. Davis, b 1876 (Tullahoma,
Tenn.).
 - m Callie Windsor, 1898.
 - (a) John Windsór Davis, b 1900.
 - (b) Margaret Davis, b 1903.
 - (2) Norman H. Davis, b 1878 (Havana, Cuba).
 - m Mackie Paschall, 1898.
 - (a) Maclin P. Davis, b 1898.
 - (b) Norman P. Davis, b 1899.
 - (c) Martha Davis, b 1902.
 - (3) Paul Davis, b 1880 (Nashville, Tenn.).

Shoffner History.

(4) Auda Lee Davis, b 1884, d 1889.

(5) Thurman J. Davis, b 1890.

(6) Christina Davis }
(7) Lamont Davis } Twins, b 1893.

(K) Laura E. Shoffner, b 1856 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).

m Morgan C. Webb, 1876.

(1) Effie B. Webb, b 1877 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
m Ross Shearin, 1899 (d 1904).

(2) Tinie S. Webb, b 1879 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
m Henry K. Morgan, 1899.
(a) Lester Morgan, b 1900.
(b) Ernestine Morgan, b 1901.

(3) Floy F. Webb, b 1885.

(4) Nellie Kate Webb, b 1890.

(5) "M. C." Webb, Jr., b 1892.

(6) Laurine Webb, b 1896.

(L) Jennie B. Shoffner, b 1858, d 1887.

m Gideon A. Brown, 1877 (De Vall's Bluff, Ark.).

(1) Jessie Brown, b 1879 (Fulton, Mo.).

(2) Shoffner Brown, b 1881 (De Vall's Bluff, Ark.).

(3) Chester A. Brown, b 1883 (De Vall's Bluff, Ark.).

(4) Alfred L. Brown, b 1885 (De Vall's Bluff, Ark.).

(M) Cora A. Shoffner, b 1859 (Galena, Kan.).

m Thomas B. Carpenter, 1878.

(1) Alma C. Carpenter, b 1881.

(2) Mabel A. Carpenter, b 1883.

(3) "T. B." Carpenter, Jr., b 1890.

(IV. Michael Shoffner, 1818-1892.)

m² Harriet Berry, 1877 (d 1899).

V. Mary (Polly) Shoffner, b 1820, d 1882.

m Thomas Boyers, 1838 (d 1868).

(A) John Boyers, b 1839.

m Letitia Landers, 1866.

(B) Amelia A. Boyers, b 1842 (Lynchburg, Tenn.).

m¹ James Price, 1875 (d 1880).

m² John A. Silvertooth, 1881 (d 1892).

(C) Fannie Boyers, b 1844 (Newton, Kan.).

m Albert G. McQuiddy, 1867.

(1) Tom B. McQuiddy, b 1869.

(2) George W. McQuiddy, b 1871.

(3) Mary Beulah McQuiddy, b 1872.

(4) Fred. Omar McQuiddy, b 1875.

(5) Jessie May McQuiddy, b 1877.

(6) Blanche McQuiddy, b 1880.

(7) Minnie A. McQuiddy, b 1883.

(D) Sandy Boyers, b 1847 (Hall's Station, Tenn.).

m Lucy Curling, 18—.

(1) Ocea Boyers, b 18—.

(2) Laudra Boyers, b 18—.

(3) Fleda Boyers, b 18—.

(4) Clyde Boyers, b 18—.

(5) Ruth Boyers, b 18—.

(E) Sallie Boyers, b 1850 (Chattanooga, Tenn.).

m Burrow Wells, 1872.

(1) Burrow Justin Wells, b and d 1872.

(2) R. Encell Wells, b 1874 (South Pittsburg, Tenn.).

m Hattie Holt, 1893.

(a) Encell Wells, b 1895.

(b) Florence Wells, b 1899.

(c) Francis Ethel Wells, b 1903.

Shoffner History.

- (3) T. Elric Wells, b 1878 (Chattanooga, Tenn.).
- (4) William Hexley Wells, b 1881 (South Pittsburg, Tenn.).
- (5) Mary S. Wells, b 1884 (Chattanooga, Tenn.).
- (6) Lulan Earl Wells, b 1888 (Chattanooga, Tenn.).
- (F) Mary E. Boyers, b 1853, d 1893.
 - m James Silvertooth, 1886 (Lynchburg, Tenn.).
 - (1) Frankie Silvertooth, b 1887.
 - (2) Bessie Silvertooth, b 1889.
- (G) Hexley E. Boyers, b 1856 (Cowan, Tenn.).
 - m Clara Bobo, 1888.
 - (1) Claude Boyers, b 1889.
- (H) Minnie Boyers, b 1859 (Tullahoma, Tenn.).
 - m James Smoot, 1880.
 - (1) Alda Smoot, b 1881 (Normandy, Tenn.).
 - m Clayton McQuiddy, 1902.
 - (2) Clarence Smoot, b 1883.
 - (3) Anna Lois Smoot, b 1887, d 1892.
 - (4) Maude Vesta Smoot, b 1889.
 - (5) Carl J. Smoot, b 1892.
 - (6) Leah Losley Smoot, b 1894, d 1897.
 - (7) Boyers Smoot, b 1898.
 - (8) Daniel Dale Smoot, b 1902.
- (I) Bettie Boyers, b 1862 (Lake City Fla.).
 - m J. D. Crabb, 1890.
 - (1) Roy Crabb, b 1891.
 - (2) "J. D." Crabb, Jr., b 1895.

VI. Julia B. Shoffner, b 1823, d 1891.

m George W. Morton, 1839 (d 1870).

(A) William H. (Tip) Morton, b 1839, d 1902.

m¹ Lucy H. Arnold, 1863 (d 1899).

(1) James R. Morton, b 1864 (Wartrace, Tenn.).

m Belle Koonce, 1887.

(a) William E. Morton, b 1888, d 1889.

(b) Robert F. Morton, b 1890.

(c) John H. Morton, b 1894.

(d) Eldridge L. Morton, b 1894.

(e) Hobart Morton, b 1896, d 1901.

(f) Ralph Bernard Morton, b 1902.

(2) George Moody Morton, b 1866, d 1867.

m² Nora Neil, 1901 (d 1902).

(B) Sophronia Ann Morton, b 1842 (Nashville, Tenn.).

m Samuel Moody Holt, 1863.

(1) William F. Holt, b 1864 (Nashville, Tenn.).

m Clara I. Grass, 1897.

(a) William Fisher Holt, b 1899.

(b) Clarence Moody Holt, b 1900.

(c) George Edward Holt, b 1902.

(2) Bennie Holt, b and d 1868.

(3) Lula J. Holt, b 1876 (Normandy, Tenn.).

m John Penn, 1899.

(a) Stanley Holt Penn, b 1902.

(4) George W. Holt, b 1878 (Nashville, Tenn.).

(5) Samuel M. Holt, b 1881 (Nashville, Tenn.).

(C) James C. Morton, b 1845 (Petersburg, Tenn.).

m¹ Nannie C. Stokes, 1864 (d 1874).

(1) Annie Morton, b 1866 (Wartrace, Tenn.).

m John Jarman, 1886.

(a) Sallie J. Jarman, b 1888.

(b) Arthur M. Jarman, b 1889.

- (c) "E. H." Jarman, b 1891.
- (d) James C. Jarman, b 1892, d 1899.
- (e) Henry C. Jarman, b 1894.
- (f) Nannie C. Jarman, b 1896.
- (g) John Dwight Jarman, b 1898.
- (h) Lettie M. Jarman, b and d 1900.
- (i) Andrew Howard Jarman, b 1901.
- (j) Claude Jarman } Twins, b 1904.
- (k) Maude Jarman }
- (2) Arthur L. Morton, b 1867 (Alabama City, Ala.).
- m² Bettie A. Thomas, 1877.
- (3) George W. Morton, b 1879 (Winchester, Tenn.).
- m Florence Lancaster, 1902.
- (a) Dixie Mai Morton, b 1902.
- (4) Horace W. Morton, b 1882 (Alabama City, Ala.).
- m Zeddie Smith, 1904.
- (5) Maude E. Morton, b 1885.
- (6) James A. Morton, b 1890.
- (7) Julia B. Morton, b 1898.
- (D) Martha Jane Morton, b 1850 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
- m Neely S. McConnell, 1874.
- (1) Fannye B. McConnell, b 1875.
- (2) George N. McConnell, b 1877.
- (3) James M. McConnell, b 1879.
- (4) Claude V. McConnell, b 1887.
- (E) Julia Ellen Morton, b 1852 (Wartrace, Tenn.).
- m Daniel A. McConnell, 1876.
- (1) Bennie A. McConnell, b 1878, d 1898.
- (2) Ernest McConnell, b 1881 (Wartrace, Tenn.).
- m Lula Rackley, 1902.
- (a) Pearl Ellen McConnell, b 1902.

- (3) Henry McConnell, b 188—.
- (4) Minnie Lee McConnell, b 1887 (Wartrace, Tenn.).
m Henry O'Neal, 1904.
- (5) Moody McConnell, b 1890.
- (F) Lee M. Morton, b 1860, d 1901.
m Dennis Searcy, 1876 (Wartrace, Tenn.).
 - (1) Robert F. Searcy, b 1877 (Wartrace, Tenn.).
m Zue Layne, 1899.
 - (a) Larry Searcy, b 1900.
 - (b) Louise Searcy, b 1902.
 - (c) Sadie Lee Searcy, b 1904.
 - (2) Moody Searcy, b 1878 (Manila, P. I.).
 - (3) Oscar Searcy, b 1880 (Manila, P. I.).
 - (4) Etta Searcy, b 1882.
m Charlie Parson, 1901.
 - (a) Charles Parson, Jr., b 1902.
 - (5) Bessie Searcy, b 1886 (Shelbyville, Tenn.).
m Clarence Watson, 1901.
 - (a) Clarence Watson, Jr., b 1902.
 - (6) Dennis Searcy, Jr., b 1888.
 - (7) Eva Searcy, b 1890.
 - (8) Carter Searcy, b 1893.

VII. Phœbe Catherine Shoffner, b 1825, d 1826.

VIII. Daniel M. (Dock) Shofner, b 1827, d 1889.

- m Emily Rachel Brittain, 1853 (Nashville, Tenn.).
- (A) William W. Shofner, b 1854 (Paducah, Ky.).
m Francis Ellen McGuire, 1883.
 - (1) Daniel Martin Shofner, b 1885.
 - (2) Lewis Dean Shofner, b 1886.
 - (3) William Emmett Shofner, b 1888.

- (4) Hugh McGuire Shofner, b 1891.
- (5) Frederick Merlin Shofner, b 1893.
- (6) Aloysius Wilson Shofner, b 1896.
- (7) Mary Fabiola Shofner, b 1897, d 1899.
- (8) Joseph Edwin Shofner, b 1900.
- (9) Louise Thelma Shofner, b 1903.

- (B) Mitchel B. Shofner, b 1856 (Nashville, Tenn.).
- (C) Henry Gaston Shofner, b 1858 (Nashville, Tenn.).
- (D) Fannie Martin Shofner, b 1860, d 1861.
- (E) Samuel D. Shofner, b 1862 (Nashville, Tenn.).
- (F) Robert E. Shofner, b 1870, d 1884.
- (G) Martha Amelia Shofner, b 1875 (Nashville, Tenn.).
- m John W. Wirsching, 1901.

IX. Martha Shoffner, b 1829, d 1899.

- m¹ Edwin L. Bryan, 1847 (d 1854).
- m² Felix Motlow, 1856 (d 1872).
- m³ W. H. Dyer, 1874 (d 1880).

X. Charlotte Shoffner, b and d 1832.

XI. Emily Jane Shofner, b 1834 (Rover, Tenn.).

- m¹ James W. Wardlow, 1856 (d 1860).
- (A) Emma Wardlow, b 1858, d 1861.
- m² Wilford E. Coleman, 1871 (d 1879).
- (B) Martha Wilford (Mattie) Coleman, b 1872 (Rover, Tenn.).
- m³ John W. Hester, 1885 (Rover, Tenn.).

XII. Sophronia Ann Shofner, b 1837, d 1841.

(JOHN SHOFNER, 1787-1857.)

- m² Isabella Beavers, 1851 (d 1887).

XIII. Annie Belle Shofner, b 1852 (Columbia, Tenn.).

m Alexander Coleman, 1875 (d 1880).

(A) Paul Shofner Coleman, b 1877 (Wilburton, I. T.).

(B) Pierre Allen Coleman, b 1879 (Columbia, Tenn.).

m Joe D. Hutton, 1900.

(1) Josephine Hutton, b 1901.

XIV. John Clay Shofner, b 1854 (Nashville, Tenn.).

m Julia Neil, 18—.

(A) Brenda Shofner, b 18—, d 18—.

XV. Isabella Shofner, b 1857, d 1861.

Four Sons for Five Generations in the Shoffner Family, Beginning with the Sons of Michael Shoffner, who was Born in Germany in 1721; Came to America and Settled in North Carolina about 1760, and died in 1800.

1. Michael Shoffner,
b 1752, d 1820.

2. George Shoffner.

3. Martin Shoffner.....
b 1758, d 1838.

4. Peter Shoffner.

1. Christian Shoffner.

1. Joel Shoffner,
b 1811, d 1862.

2. Loton Shoffner,
b 1813, d 1899.

3. Michael Shoffner
b 1818, d 1892.

3. Frederick Shoffner.

4. Daniel Shoffner,
b 1827, d 1889.

1. Jacob Shoffner,
b 1841.

2. John E. Shoffner ...
b 1847.

3. Hugh L. Shoffner,
b 1848.

4. Fins E. Shoffner,
b 1850.

1. Eugene Shoffner,
b 1870.

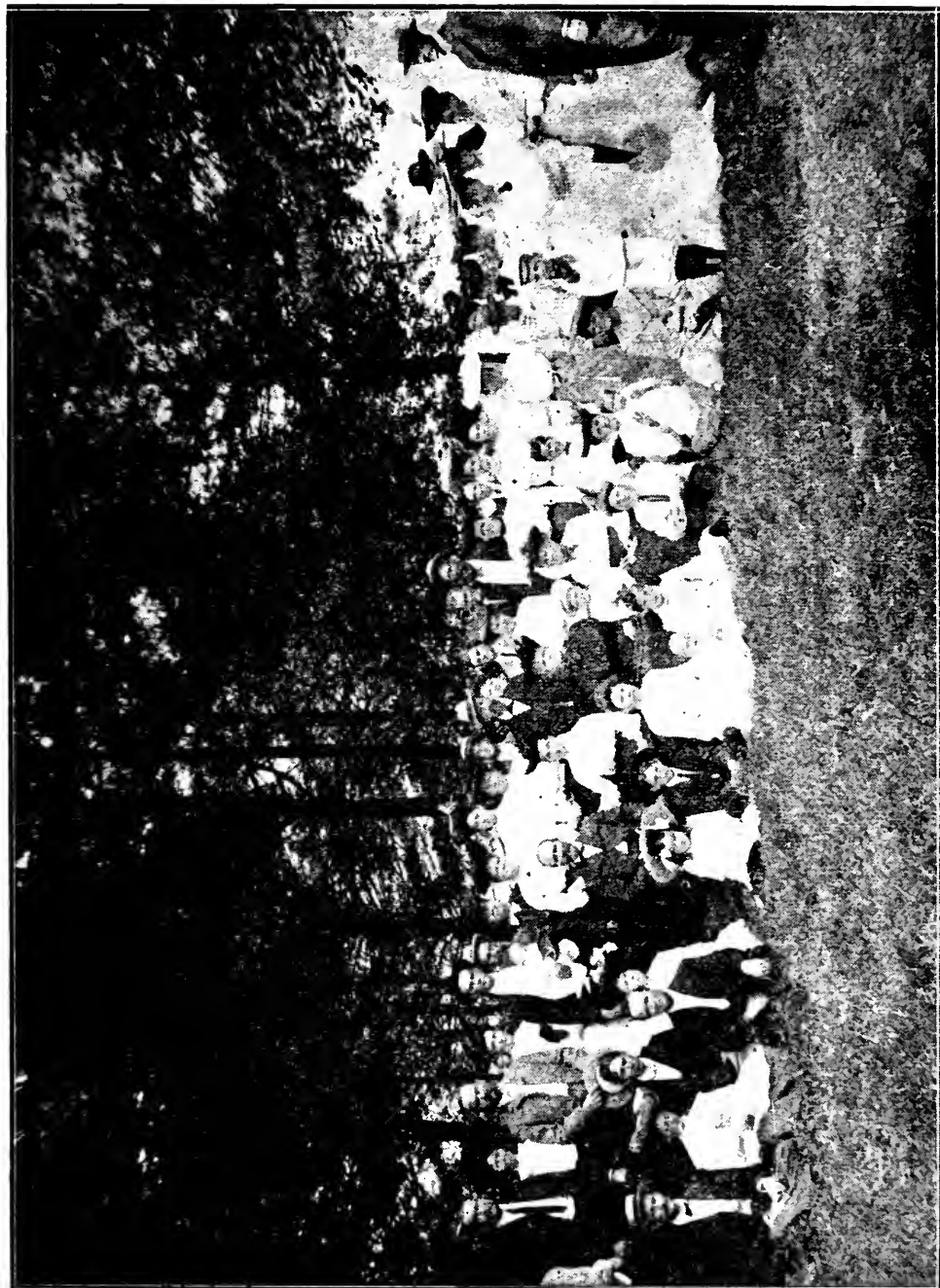
2. Clarence Shoffner,
b 1873.

3. Clyde Shoffner,
b 1877.

4. Omar Shoffner,
b 1880.

PART III.





THE DESCENDANTS OF JOHN SHOFNER ASSEMBLED AT THE ANNUAL SHOFNER REUNION, AUGUST 17-20, 1904.



THE SHOFFNER REUNIONS.

A historical treatise like this would not be complete without imparting to absent members the proceedings of the five family reunions of the past. The most effective way to do this is to reproduce the articles written for the county papers just after each meeting. The reports of the reunions of 1900, 1901, and 1903 were written for the Bedford County Times by Mrs. Chris. H. Shoffner, while those for 1902 and 1904 were written by her for this publication.

THE FIRST REUNION—SEPTEMBER 5-7, 1900.

For the last five or six months three young men—Claude W. Shofner, of Mulberry, Tenn.; Sam. Shofner, of Nashville, Tenn.; and Alden Shofner, of Flat Creek, Tenn.—have been agitating the question of having a “Shofner Reunion.” At first they met with very little encouragement, as many of the relatives did not grasp the full meaning; while others who did were indifferent and said it was too big an undertaking, and they predicted a failure. Nevertheless, these young men kept talking it up here and there, as they chanced to meet some one of this family, until they succeeded in getting a sufficient number interested so as to consider a time and place of meeting. They finally decided to hold the reunion on September 5-7, as it was more of an idle

time and there would be moonlight nights. A grove on the premises of Col. William J. Shofner, of Thompson's Creek, was selected as being the most suitable, taking everything into consideration, as it was more centrally located and it was in this immediate neighborhood that the two brothers, Martin and Peter Shofner, settled on coming to this State. Then, Colonel Shofner was the oldest Shofner among the men, as far as could be learned.

Circulars were struck and sent far and near. The original committee, together with some others, met and spent several days clearing up the grounds, erecting a stand, and making quite a number of seats.

On Wednesday morning of the 5th they began to put in an appearance, and the grounds soon presented a busy scene. Some were getting their tents stretched and arranging their camping outfits, while here and there were seen groups of friends laughing and talking and going forward every few minutes to greet fresh arrivals. The afternoon was spent in preparations and in welcoming old friends and new. At seven o'clock every one was requested to come together for the first business meeting. C. H. Shofner, of Thompson's Creek, was elected permanent chairman; Claude W. Shofner, permanent secretary. After the passing of various resolutions looking to the general welfare of the meeting, a short programme was rendered. The exercises were opened with the singing of the "Shofner Jubilee" welcome song by the grandchildren of Col. William Shofner. Prof. Horace Hooser, of Haley, then entertained the crowd with a most interesting historical address, giving an account of the Shofner family from the time

that their great ancestors, Martin and Peter Shofner, came here from North Carolina and settled in this county, down to the present day, showing that there were then represented on those grounds descendants of those men even to the seventh generation. J. C. Shofner (Fiddler Jim) and W. H. Shofner rendered some stirring violin music. Mr. Elmer Slater, of Haley, gave us a lively little impromptu speech, and Mr. Johnnie Shofner and Ernest Burrow sang some of the popular "coon" songs of the day. Miss Maude Kimsey recited the "Backwoods Wedding." Mrs. Kelly Shofner, of Mulberry, sang in her rich voice one of the dear old songs of long ago. After this we were at liberty to go home or stay and talk and have music and a good time generally till we got sleepy.

(On Thursday morning the various vehicles came rolling in, filled to their utmost capacity with laughing people and baskets of provisions. Then there was another happy meeting of old friends and new. Some met there who had not seen each other for years. While smiles wreathed their faces, tears were not far off and could often be seen rolling down their cheeks. You could hear some one say: "Why, if yonder isn't Aunt, Uncle, or Cousin So and So! I wonder will they recognize us after all these years?" They would go forward in groups, and you could hear them say, "Yes, I knew you by your voice," or "by your eyes," or, again: "No, I never would have known you, so greatly have the flight of years and the trials of life changed you." People who were boys and girls together would be seen bringing their own boys and girls and grandchildren to introduce them to each other. O, it was a happy scene,

and sometimes a very sad one, as some met each other clad in emblems of mourning, and you saw them weep for those who were gone! Then we began to realize that there were Shofners and Shofners on those grounds. From far-off South Dakota came Mrs. Angeline Weber, with her daughter and grand-daughter. She said she had intended coming later on; but only the day before she started came the circular telling of this great reunion, and she just bundled things together, and here she was shaking hands with all her old friends and kindred.)

The West Tennessee delegation was represented by Thomas J. Shofner and wife, Mrs. Daniel P. Shofner, and Mrs. J. Woosley—all of Union City. Mr. R. C. Shofner was there from Corinth, Ark.; Mr. W. F. Cheshire (Old Snike), his wife, and boy, from Rockwood, Ill.; Mrs. Eva Euleless Landis and four children, from Chattanooga, Tenn.; Mr. Scott Gordon, from Texas. James Morton and Terry Landis—the genial, musical Terry—were there to represent Petersburg, Tenn. Mrs. John Reese and daughter (Miss Annie), Mr. and Mrs. Jim Coldwell and two children, Mr. and Mrs. John Kelso, Mr. Eugene Landis, Mr. William Shofner and daughter, and perhaps others whom we did not meet, were there from Fayetteville, Tenn. From Mulberry and Boonville, Tenn., came Mrs. Nancy Shofner, eighty-four years of age; Mrs. Robert Moore, son, and daughter; Mrs. Scott Shofner; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Small, daughter, and son; Mr. and Mrs. Milton Shofner, daughter, and son; Mrs. Ellen Shofner and four sons; Mrs. Kelly Shofner; Mrs. Cord Farrar and four children; Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Shofner and two charming daughters, Mary and

Alice, and also little Alberta. From Flat Creek and vicinity were Mr. and Mrs. James B. Shofner, Mr. Joe Renegar and family, Mr. and Mrs. George Shofner and family, Mrs. Ellen Parker and children, Mrs. Ann Wagoner and little grand-daughter (Beulah Holman), Mr. Henry Dean and family, Mr. Henry Bearden and family, and Miss Ethel Shofner. From Shelbyville and near by were Mrs. Hattie Shoffner, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Shofner and family, Mrs. Alice Armstrong and two sons, Mr. John Burrow, Miss Edna Word, Mr. and Mrs. Wing, and one of the Shofners' best friends—Mr. John W. Ruth. Nashville sent us Mrs. Rachel Shofner and daughter, Miss Amelia, and Sam. and Gaston, also William W. Shofner and two sons. From Farmington were Mrs. Nancy McQuiddy and three grandsons. Wartrace furnished Mr. H. T. Parker and family, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Dean, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ayers, Mrs. Julia Gattis and daughter, and Mr. Tip Morton. Those we knew from Singleton were Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Burrow, Mr. Jeff. Stanfield and family, Mr. Lafayette Reagor and family, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Proby, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Woosley; and Mrs. Mattie Clay was also there, from Wheel. From Poplin's Cross Roads came Mr. Gracen Shearin and family. Butler's Creek sent Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Shofner, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Miller, Mrs. Joe Mullins, Miss Ethel Wells and two brothers. Decherd showed up with Mrs. Mary Bearden. Tullahoma redeemed herself by sending a pretty fair delegation, consisting of Mr. Lonzo Conger and family, Mrs. Tina Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Micajah Troxler and children, Mr. H. M. Kimsey, and Mr. Newt. Muse and son. From Haley and

vicinity there were Mr. Jep. B. Shofner and two boys, Mr. Thomas A. Shofner and family, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Slater, Mr. George Slater and family, Mrs. S. E. Slater and daughter, Mrs. Bettie Ayers, Mr. Mitch. Hooser and family, Mr. Dock Shofner and family, Mr. Joe Shofner and family, and Mr. Frederick Shofner. From Thompson's Creek and Raus were Mr. Riley Burrow and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Walling, Mr. Smith Lawrence and family, Mrs. Lula Johnson, Mrs. Turley Bomar, Mrs. Grace McMillan, Mr. Allen Shofner and family, Mr. Tom Hornady and family, Mrs. Bettie Jenkins and children, Chris. H. Shofner and family, W. H. Shofner and family, Col. William Shofner and wife, Mr. Billy Shofner and family, Mr. and Mrs. Woody Templeton, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Hitt, Mr. Bud Brinkley and family, Mrs. Sue Shofner, Mr. and Mrs. Sharp, the Misses and Mrs. Dean, Mr. James Lokey and family, Mr. Newton Bomar and family, Mr. J. P. Kimsey and family, Mr. T. A. Himes and wife, Mrs. Robert Jenkins, Mr. Henderson Shofner, Mr. Monroe Shofner and family, Miss Emily Span, Mr. Pinkney Prince and family. - Mr. Ernest Shofner was there from Erin, having a big time with his old friends and relatives. Mrs. Mary Keller and Mrs. Dr. Ryall and daughter were also there.

All of these mentioned are related. Perhaps we have overlooked several names; but if so, it was unintentional. There was quite a large crowd of neighbors and friends outside the family who came to look on and enjoy the exercises and have a good time.

On Thursday afternoon there was another business meeting, resulting in the election of officers for the

next annual meeting and the appointing of a Committee on Family History. It was then suggested that Col. William Shofner, being the oldest among the men, and Mrs. Nancy Shofner, of Lincoln County, widow of the late Jephtha Shofner, being the oldest lady, be elected as father and mother, so to speak, of this meeting and given the seats of honor. So a committee was appointed to escort them to the stand; and this being done and after a brief talk from Colonel Shofner, it was proposed that while a march was being played every one present should file past them and congratulate and shake hands with them. (Mr. John W. Ruth made an appropriate talk, which was well received. By request, Mr. W. F. Slater, of Haley, read in a most impressive manner an obituary written by a friend of the late Dan. P. Shofner, who was killed by a fall down an open elevator shaft at Memphis a few years since. The meeting was closed with prayer by Mr. Ruth.)

At 8:30 P.M. another programme was rendered. The opening song was "America." Then came an address by C. H. Shofner, which was received with enthusiasm by the audience. H. T. Parker was called on, and responded in his usual happy style. He said that C. H. Shofner had said that the Shofners had helped develop all that was good, not only in this State, but in several other States; that they had a reputation wherever found for honesty, morality, and charity. He said they were such a grand and glorious old race, as we had just heard extolled, and were fulfilling the Bible injunction to "multiply and replenish the earth" at such an alarming extent, he would take back his oft-repeated objections to President McKinley's foreign

policy, as he now saw and believed that McKinley evidently was well acquainted with this great family and their wonderful posterity; hence his idea of acquiring more territory. Seeing, he said, the coming prestige of the Shofners, he years ago got into the right boat by marrying one of them. Then followed a speech by Mr. Eulless Lawrence, which did him great credit. Next, music by Misses Mary and Alice Shofner, J. C. Shofner, and Terry Landis; recitation, Eulan Bomar; piano solo, Miss Annie Reese; vocal duet, "O, Tell Us, Merry Birds!" Misses Mamie Jenkins and Clara Shofner; vocal duet, Misses Nora and Estha Shofner; recitation, Miss Maude Kimsey; song, "Twinkle, Little Star," little Lettie and Georgia Shofner; music on harp and piano, Roy Shofner and mother; violin solo, Haskell Shofner; song, Roy Shofner and sister and Mamie Jenkins.

Friday morning revealed much the same scenes as the previous days. After dinner, as time drew near to say, "Good-by," they were loath to part. While tents were being taken down and goods and chattels packed up ready for departure, there was again a good time enjoyed by all, listening to speeches by 'Squire Frost, of Flat Creek; Mr. Lige Roberts, of Raus; H. M. Kimsey, of Tullahoma; Thomas Shofner, of Union City; William Shofner, of Nashville; C. H. Shofner; and Rev. Ephraim Anthony. 'Squire Frost told about his various connections with the Shofner family, and said he once had a Shofner sweetheart, and that "let him in." 'Squire Roberts told how he had rabbit hunted and gone coon and 'possum hunting over these same old hills in bygone days with the Shofner boys. He

told about his visits at "Uncle Bill Shofner's," and said he believed he could have shown as many "stone bruises" on his heels as any of them, and that he, too, used to have a Shofner sweetheart. Rev. Ephraim Anthony said he claimed relationship with the family, as his grandmother was a Shofner; and he gave much interesting information in regard to it. Mr. Kimsey told about his experience as a schoolmaster in these parts and various items of interest connected with his youth. Then came talks in memory of our beloved dead. A hush fell over the laughing assembly, heads were bowed in solemn reverence, and tears were shed over their absence, while Chris., Thomas, Will. Shofner, and others paid tribute in eloquent words to their virtues. After the singing by all of that old, sweet song, "God Be with You," we were dismissed, to be called together next year by the notification of the special committee.

Every one agreed it had been good to be there. Every day there was an abundance of dinner prepared by the relatives, and everybody was most cordially invited to partake. Every afternoon at half past four the young, as well as the old, enjoyed a fine game of baseball. Games of other kinds—such as croquet, crokinole, etc.—could be enjoyed at all times. Ice lemonade was furnished free.

A vote of thanks was tendered the three young men mentioned in recognition of their efforts in bringing about this great meeting. After a general hand shake and promise to meet again, all of us who could (and none will miss, if living and well), we wended our way homeward, tired in body, but happy in spirit.

THE SECOND REUNION, 1901.

The Shofner reunion, for which we have worked and planned for weeks past, has come and gone. The place where yesterday was all bustle and mirth is now peaceful and quiet. No sound is heard, save the song of the birds or the chirp of the cricket or tree frog; and if perchance some friend passes that way to-day, he would feel

“Like one who treads alone
Some banquet hall deserted,
Whose lights had fled,
Whose garlands dead,
And all but he departed.”

Not before Tuesday afternoon did there seem to be any indication of the opening scene; but by two o'clock on that day the rumble of wagons and buggies, the sound of hammer and saw and gay voices calling here and there, began to ring out on the air. Owing to the continued rains of the past week, many who had contemplated “tenting out” ceased to make any arrangements; and, therefore, when the sun shone out and the time was at hand, they were unprepared, and could not join the jolly company encamped on the hillsides. Enough came, however, to make it appear something like we had hoped it would be.

The reunion proper began Wednesday morning. The first thing after the opening song they were called to order by the chairman, C. H. Shofner. The minutes of the preceding meeting were read by Alden Shofner, in the absence of C. W. Shofner, the regular secretary. Reports of committees on family history were

read and the committees discharged. The election of officers for 1902 was then in order. C. H. Shofner was reelected chairman; Alden B. Shofner, secretary. It was moved and carried that the chair appoint another Historical Committee, whose work, when completed, be printed in pamphlet form. The chairman was also instructed to appoint an Executive Committee, consisting of five men, whose duty shall be to say when and where the next reunion shall be held and who shall have full power to dictate as to what the nature of the entertainment shall be and everything pertaining thereto. On the afternoon of the last day of the reunion the chairman read out the names of the two committees, as follows: Historical Committee—Joseph Shofner, Haley, Tenn.; Elmer Slater, Haley, Tenn.; T. A. Shofner, Haley, Tenn.; Riley Burrow, Shelbyville, Tenn.; Clarence L. Shoffner, Wartrace, Tenn.; Milton Dean, Wartrace, Tenn.; Mitchel Holt, Raus, Tenn.; Milton Shofner, Mulberry, Tenn.; Thomas J. Jones, Singleton, Tenn. These represent each branch of Martin and Peter Shofner. Executive Committee—J. M. Shofner, Shelbyville, Tenn.; James B. Shofner, Flat Creek, Tenn.; J. W. Jenkins, Normandy, Tenn.; T. A. Shofner, Haley, Tenn.; Sam. D. Shofner, Nashville, Tenn. T. A. Shofner was elected chairman and J. W. Jenkins was elected secretary of the Executive Committee.

The address of welcome was given on Wednesday morning by D. W. Shofner, of Mount Pleasant, Tenn. His remarks were well received; and the people, indeed, felt welcome, after hearing his words, to share in all the pleasant things provided. After this speech, dinner was in order; and the whole crowd was invited

to partake of the feast of good things such as the Shofners are famous for preparing, and the people did them ample justice. After dinner, a letter was read by W. F. Slater, written by one of the relatives—Enoch Holt, of Arkansas. It had been the intention of the secretary to have read also several other interesting letters from some new-found kinfolks—one from Robert Shofner, of Texas, giving some interesting data; another from Albert D. Shofner, of Paris, Tenn., stating that his father, Bedford Davis Shofner, is a grandson of Daniel Shofner; another, a beautiful letter of greeting from William Shofner Wells, of San Francisco, Cal., would have delighted the crowd—but the neglect was an oversight much regretted by the secretary; hence this explanation.

On Wednesday night the organization listened with rapt attention to a most eloquent address by Mr. Clarence Shoffner, of Wartrace, Tenn. It was an able production, and quite covered the young orator with glory as amid the round of applause he took his seat. Several beautiful instrumental pieces were rendered by the old favorites—Jim B. Shofner and his daughter, Mrs. Mary Conger, and Miss Alice Shofner, piano. Good, stirring music by the Kimsey band was enjoyed, and the players were encored. Songs by Misses Cora, Alice, and Add Shofner, Miss Mary Hooser, Roy Shofner, and some of the old patriotic and plantation songs were sung by various other members.

On Thursday morning we had the honor and great pleasure of listening to an address by Hon. Edmund Cooper, of Shelbyville, Tenn. It was a reminiscence of his knowledge of the older Shofners and the first set-

tlement of this country. He spoke of his early acquaintance with such men as Rev. William Jenkins, Nimrod Burrow, the families who spelled their names both "Landers" and "Landis," Martin Eules, Loton Shofner, William J. Shofner, and various others whose posterity were present. He spoke of the days when, in company with some of the Shofners, he hunted deer over the grounds where Tullahoma now stands. He contrasted the old times with the present, and showed the difference between the manner of harvesting the various crops, the styles, and everything pertaining to then and now. (To say it was delivered in Mr. Cooper's most genial and generally delightful manner would be putting it very feebly and poorly expressing the sentiments of the vast crowd who hung on his words and who, with smiles mingled with tears, loudly and lovingly applauded the grand old champion of their race as he waved us a graceful good-by at the close.)

Hon. John W. Jenkins (well known to his old schoolmates as "Fox") gave one of his characteristic speeches after dinner. He told of many haps and mishaps of his and others of his Shofner friends in the old days, which brought nods of acknowledgment from the boys, now fast growing old men, as he pointed them out scattered here and there through the crowd. Humor, pathos, and eloquence abounded throughout his speech; and the people would hardly agree for him to stop at all, so great a favorite is he. Compliments are extended to Mr. Ike Gattis and sister for music on the violin and piano; also to Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Maupin, the Misses Parker, little Miss Josie Blanton, Miss Nora Shofner, and others. Rev. Webb McQuiddy made an interesting

talk, which was well received. Miss Lillian Shaw delighted the audience from time to time with fine comic and other recitations. Those rendering other fine recitations were Miss Nora Bob Ayers, Miss Edna Word, Miss Pearl Blanton, little Wilmer Shofner, and last, but not least, Mrs. William Russell.

On Thursday night we listened to a speech by Mr. Euless Lawrence, one of the younger members, which did him much credit; and we predict for him a bright future. Mr. Elmer Slater, who is also nicknamed "Lump," next gave an impromptu talk. Elmer is also an old favorite, and never fails to "bring down the house." D. W. Shofner responded to calls from the audience; and when bidding us good-by, he promised to present to the next reunion a red-headed boy, whom he left at home this time, who would astound us all by his apt remarks, fine appearance, and all that kind of thing, you know. Some of the rest promise to show with you, Dan. A song by little Lettie and Georgia Shofner, a song by request ("Dolly Grey") by Roy Shofner, and stirring pieces by the Shofner band and Mr. Ike Gattis closed the evening exercises.

Friday was breaking-up day; not much done but pulling down tents and saying good-by. As the sun neared its setting, there was a general hand shake all around, and we wended our way homeward, well satisfied with what we had seen and heard and with a more exalted opinion of the Shofners than ever. Long may they wave!

THE THIRD REUNION, 1902.

The first two days of this reunion, August 18 and 19, were taken up with the setting up of tents and the usual routine of friendly greetings and getting ready for the opening exercises.

Thursday morning, the 20th, dawned clear and bright; and by ten o'clock the grounds presented a lively appearance. The meeting was called to order by the chairman, C. H. Shofner; and a short programme was rendered, opening with music, "Old Black Joe," with variations, by Jim Shofner on the violin, with piano accompaniment; next was a speech by Omar Shoffner, who was introduced by D. W. Shofner, of Mount Pleasant, Tenn; music by Miss Mamie Jenkins; reading of a letter by W. M. Holt; vocal solo by Mrs. Tommy Shofner; then a recitation by Miss Lillian Shaw, "Don't He Look Awfully Cute?" closed the day's exercises.

On Friday morning we had music by Miss Mamie Jenkins. Then followed the election of officers for 1903. Chris. H. Shofner was made chairman; Milton Shofner, assistant chairman. A. M. Shofner was elected secretary, with Claude Shoffner as assistant. A motion was then made and carried that a committee of one be appointed by the chairman to correspond with the War Department at Washington in regard to the erection of a fitting monument over the grave of Martin Shofner, our ancestor, who served in the Revolutionary War. Mr. Monroe Shofner was appointed. On a motion to hold our meeting for next year on only two days a lively discussion followed, but it was finally left to the Executive Committee. A motion was carried for the chairman to appoint a Committee on Entertainment. After

music on the violin and piano, adjournment was made for dinner.

Friday afternoon, August 21, the meeting was called to order by the chairman, who gave out the list of appointment for 1903, as follows: Executive Committee—J. M. Shofner, Shelbyville; Thomas A. Shofner, Haley; James B. Shoffner, Flat Creek; John W. Jenkins, Normandy; Hugh L. Shofner, Shelbyville. Committee on Programme—Mrs. Vinnie Shofner, Raus; Mr. Joe Shofner, Haley; Mrs. Emma Maupin, Shelbyville; Mr. Joe Mullins, Shelbyville; Miss Nora Shofner, Flat Creek; Mr. Willie Parker, Flat Creek; Mr. James Shoffner, Mulberry; and Miss Sallie Smith, Mulberry. Next was the delivery of reports of the Historical Committee. This committee was then reappointed and instructed to continue their work until it was completed. This closed the business part of the meeting. We then listened to a fine and well-rendered speech by Mr. Clarence L. Shoffner, followed by music by Miss Nina Shoffner; song by Prof. Marvin Kimbro; instrumental solo by Miss Lilly McQuiddy; speech by John Gordon, of Texas; song by John Shofner; recitation by little Sadie Shofner; song by Nat. and Sadie Shofner. We then enjoyed short talks from J. W. Jenkins, Elmer Slater, D. W. Shoffner, and others, and then adjourned.

The next day, Saturday, was devoted to taking down tents, general hand shaking and good-byes, and promises to meet each other there again, if spared to see that time, in 1903; and if not, we said in our closing song we would meet in the "sweet by and by," God being willing, and we prayed him to be with us "till we meet again."

THE FOURTH REUNION, 1903.

On Tuesday there was nothing done, except the putting up of tents of first arrivals and adding the finishing touches to the grounds and stand.

Wednesday, September 2, was cool and clear; and the members of this great body began to put in an appearance at an early hour. The first few hours were spent in the usual hand shaking, and the sound of merry voices and gay laughter was to be heard on all sides. There was one new camper added to the list this year—Mrs. Tina Davis and children, of Tullahoma; and to her was awarded the medal for being the first arrival on the scene of action, and she was also the last to leave. Mr. Gas. Shoffner, of Nashville, has heretofore borne off this prize.

The Wednesday meeting was called to order by the chairman, Mr. C. H. Shoffner. The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted. In the absence of the regular secretary, Mr. Alden Shoffner, Mr. G. E. Slater acted in his stead. The Historical Committee made their report. Some of them were not quite ready for publication, but promise us the long-expected book without fail by next fall. Good programmes were rendered both morning and afternoon. The speech of the day was that of Rev. Isham Burrow, of Arkansas, which was well received. "Fiddler Jim," of Lincoln County, accompanied by Miss Candis Smith, opened the exercises with some of their lively music, which always calls forth a storm of applause. Mrs. W. P. Cooper favored us with some fine instrumental music, and little Master Ollie Renegar covered himself with glory by his fine ren-

dering of his famous piece about trials and tribulations resulting from his being left in charge of the baby. Mr. N. B. Burrow, also of Arkansas, gave some laughable reminiscences of his old school days among us, which brought back those old days very vividly to those who remembered the incidents to which he alluded. We hope Cousin Ney will try to be with us next time. Little Annie Jenkins sang a song in a very sweet and creditable manner. Miss Nina Shoffner also rendered some instrumental music. A fine dinner, such as the good Shoffner ladies are famous for preparing, was served at the noon hour. Quite a new lot of Shoffner babies were handed around for admiration of the relatives, and received the usual number of hugs and kisses generally allotted these little kinfolks.

Wednesday night another programme was rendered. Among the number of pieces was a well-gotten-up recitation by Miss Lucile Farrar; a sweet little piece by little Alberta Shoffner; a song by Alberta and Lucile Shoffner; a vocal solo by Howard Shoffner, "Then I'd Be Satisfied with Life;" a vocal duet by Lettie Shoffner and Ruth Parker; Mrs. Tommy Shoffner, of Mulberry, gave some of her choice selections; Miss Emma Shoffner, of Haley, favored us with music; and our Lincoln County fiddlers were on hand from time to time with their jigs and reels.

Thursday was the big barbecue day, and the great crowds thronged the grounds early and late. Again we were entertained with fine programmes well rendered. Prof. Marvin Kimbro, of Shelbyville, favored the audience with a fine song, and then delivered a most interesting speech, which was listened to with close at-

tention. His beautiful bride was the observed of all observers and greatly admired. Instrumental duets were rendered by Mrs. Mary and Irene Mullins, Mrs. Clara Murchison and Miss Mamie Jenkins, Mrs. Irene Mullins and Miss Nina Shoffner. Miss Nora Shoffner played some lively two-steps, after which were songs by Mrs. Tommy Shoffner, Miss Kate Jenkins, and little Annie Jenkins.

The barbecue was a glorious success, and the tables fairly groaned beneath their loads. A committee of ladies—composed of Mrs. Melissa Shoffner, Mrs. Harriet Miller, Mrs. Loula Johnson, Mrs. Mollie Prince, Miss Mollie Burrow, Mrs. Anna Shoffner, and several others—were appointed by the chairman to arrange the tables, and they did their work in a most perfect manner. After dinner, the Lutheran choir, led by Mrs. Bob Jenkins, rendered a fine anthem.

On Thursday night there was another open-air concert. The committee from Flat Creek, led by Miss Nora Shoffner, gave us some good pieces, among which was a vocal solo by Miss Cora Shoffner and "Whippoorwill" sung and acted by Misses Kate and Stella Shoffner and Messrs. Roscoe and Charlie Shoffner. The little Conger twins from Tullahoma sang a song, "Gypsy Girl," very sweetly. Little Jessie Conger gave a recitation which was loudly applauded. Mr. Howard Shoffner and others sang "Down where the Cotton Blossoms Grow." There were songs by Willie Shoffner, of Haley, and Will. Shoffner, of Thompson's Creek. Lettie Shoffner and Ruth Parker sang another vocal duet, "Sam and Tildy's Courtship," which took well, Ruth making a very creditable "boy." Miss Lucile Farrar

gave another good recitation, and Ollie Renegar (by request) recited his "baby" piece again. A number of good letters from friends who could not be with us were read to the audience. An especially good one was from our friend and kinsman, Dr. A. P. Ryall, which was greatly enjoyed.

Friday morning was given up strictly to business. The same chairman and secretary were reappointed, also the same Executive Committee. The chair appointed entertainment committees from Thompson's Creek, Flat Creek, Singleton, Butler's Creek, Mulberry, Boonville, Haley, and Normandy. The time and place of next meeting was left to the Executive Committee. After singing of the "Doxology," the reunion adjourned *sine die*.

THE FIFTH REUNION, 1904.

This was one of the most enjoyable of all the reunions we have had, although we missed from our number the familiar faces of some who always had been our old "stand-bys," most prominent among whom were our Lincoln County "fiddler" and his interesting family, jolly Cousin Bob Small and his household, also three of our charter members—Claude, Alden, and Sam. Shofner—the three originators of these meetings. Others, too, were conspicuous by their absence; but most of the old members were faithful. "Aunt Ellen Shofner" has never missed a meeting; and Cousin Milton Shofner, his good wife, and our old friends—Jim Holman and wife, Dora—greet us each year with their pleasant

words and smiles. These all come from Lincoln County, and have to get up lots of enthusiasm and courage to come so far and over such hills. The old-time tenters were with us, too; and it would not seem like the "Shoffner Reunion" without the cheering presence of Thomas Shoffner, Mrs. Tinie Davis, and Gas. Shofner. Our Flat Creek tenters were not in evidence this time. We were glad to welcome our visiting cousins from Kansas in the persons of Mrs. Cora Carpenter and children—Alma, Mabel, and T. B.—and hope they were so pleasantly entertained that they will make this the "Mecca" of their pilgrimage time after time.

The 17th, as usual, had been devoted to the task of getting settled; so the morning of August 18 found everything in full swing. After the order of business, we had a varied programme of music, both instrumental and vocal. After dinner, we enjoyed a fine talk from Mr. Marvin Kimbro. Mrs. Armstrong, of Nashville, who was present by special invitation, played a difficult duet with Miss Mamie Jenkins. Then followed a song by Miss Nina Shoffner and a recitation by Sadie Shofner.

The entertainment Thursday night consisted of a song, "Meet Me in St. Louis," by Will. Shofner, of Haley; song by four boys—Roy, Will., and Howard Shofner and Eldridge Bomar—followed by a speech from Eldridge Bomar. Then came a song by Miss Ethel Parker and a recitation by Sadie Shofner. We were next highly entertained by a talk from Mrs. Armstrong, followed by a quartet, "The Husband's Mistake," or "Muffs," sung by Roy Shofner, tenor; Howard Shofner, bass; Miss Argie Kimbro, alto; and Miss

Mamie Jenkins, soprano; closing with a song by the audience, "God Be with You Till We Meet Again."

On Friday morning a large crowd was in attendance. There were a good many visitors, among whom was our old friend, John W. Ruth, also Mr. Hugh L. Davidson, Professor Hanna and his accomplished wife, and others we do not just now call to mind. The programme was quite a long one, but seemed to meet the approbation of the audience, if we judge by long and loud applause. Miss Josie Blanton, one of our young musicians, of whom we are all justly proud and who had been most kind in favoring us with fine selections of music all along, opened the exercises with an instrumental solo; and her sister, Mrs. Pearl Piers, of Florida, rendered a beautiful song. Next came a recitation of great merit by Miss Julia Ryall, followed by an instrumental duet by Misses Julia Ryall and Josie Blanton. Then came in succession recitations by Miss Perry Parker and little Clyde McMillan; song by two little girls, Lois and Pearl Shofner; song by Annie Jenkins; song (which produced an encore), "Robby Shafto," by Nat., Sadie, and Georgia Shofner, Nat. and Sadie singing for encore "The Milkmaid." Just before dinner came the quartet, "The Family Doctor," sung by Eldridge Bomar, bass; Howard Shofner, tenor; Miss Mamie Jenkins, soprano; and Miss Argie Kimbro, alto.

The afternoon exercises were opened by a speech from Austin Shofner; then a song by Miss Kate Jenkins; after which the play, "Strike of the Working Girls," was rendered. The programme was closed with the cantata, "The Jolly Picnic Party," which was played as had been taught by Mrs. Armstrong. The girls and

boys who took part were all Shofners, with few exceptions. It was finely rendered and highly enjoyed by all.

There was to have been a programme Friday night, but a storm of wind and rain put a stop to any further proceedings.

On Saturday there were very few who ventured out to the business meeting, but enough were present to transact the necessary business. The same committees were left standing. The time of meeting for 1905 will be determined, as usual, by the Executive Committee and given out in their annual circular, which will come out early in the summer months.

THE SIXTH REUNION, 1905.

Just before this book leaves the press, circulars reach us announcing the "Shoffner Reunion" to be held on Thompson's Creek, four and one-half miles south of Haley, Bedford County, Tenn., in the beech grove of Col. William Shofner, now the oldest living descendant, beginning on Tuesday, August 15, 1905, and continuing **four days**.

The lineal descendants of MICHAEL SHOFNER (born in Germany in 1721, and died in North Carolina, U. S. A., in 1800), their husbands and wives, will hold their annual reunion; and the invitation is to every one of the above. No difference what name you bear, come. Come to spend the four days and nights with us on the camp ground. Bring your camping outfit and the records of the family that you may have. If you cannot come, write a letter telling of yourself and family.

August 15 will be devoted to putting up tents, family meetings, and such other works as may be essential to the welfare of the camp; August 16, reports of Committee on Record; August 17, reports of Committees on Manuscript; August 18, reading of letters from absent ones, election of committees for the year 1906, and all other business that may come before the family.

Executive Committee—T. A. Shofner, Haley; J. B. Shofner, Flat Creek; J. W. Jenkins, Shelbyville; J. M. Shofner, Shelbyville; H. T. Parker, Raus; and H. L. Shofner, Shelbyville.

Committee on Entertainment—Mrs. Vinnie C. Shofner, Shelbyville; Mrs. Lula Johnson, Shelbyville; Miss Mamie Jenkins, Shelbyville; Joe Shofner, Haley; Miss Mary Hooser, Haley; Robert Jenkins, Shelbyville; Haskell Shofner, Shelbyville; Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Cooper, Shelbyville; Misses Ella and Daisy Parker, Raus; Miss Stella Shofner, Flat Creek; Miss Julia Ryall, Shelbyville; Miss Josie Blanton, Shelbyville; Mr. W. M. Cortner, Normandy; Mrs. Grace McMillan, Shelbyville; Miss Nina Shoffner, Shelbyville; Edward Maupin, Shelbyville; J. C. Shofner, Mulberry; Miss Candis Smith, Mulberry; Mrs. Tommy Shofner, Boonville; Nora Small, Boonville; Mrs. Dora Holman, Boonville; and Mrs. Emma Maupin, Shelbyville. The above committee will make out the programme and give it to the master of ceremonies.

Committee on Supplies—Sam. Johnson, Shelbyville; H. T. Parker, Raus; H. L. Shofner, Shelbyville.

Committee on Water—J. W. Jenkins.

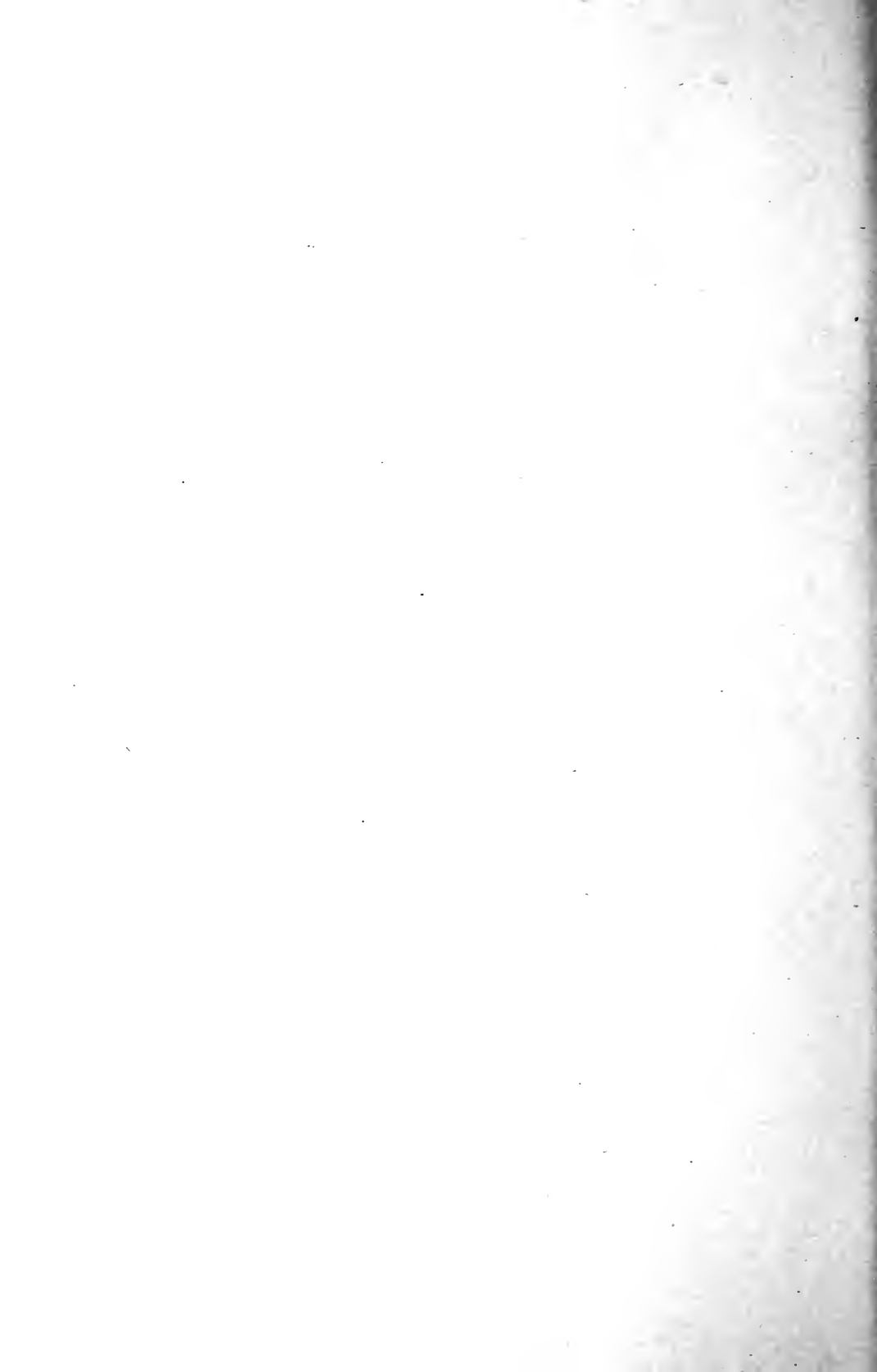
Committee on Grounds—Sam. D. Shofner, Nashville;

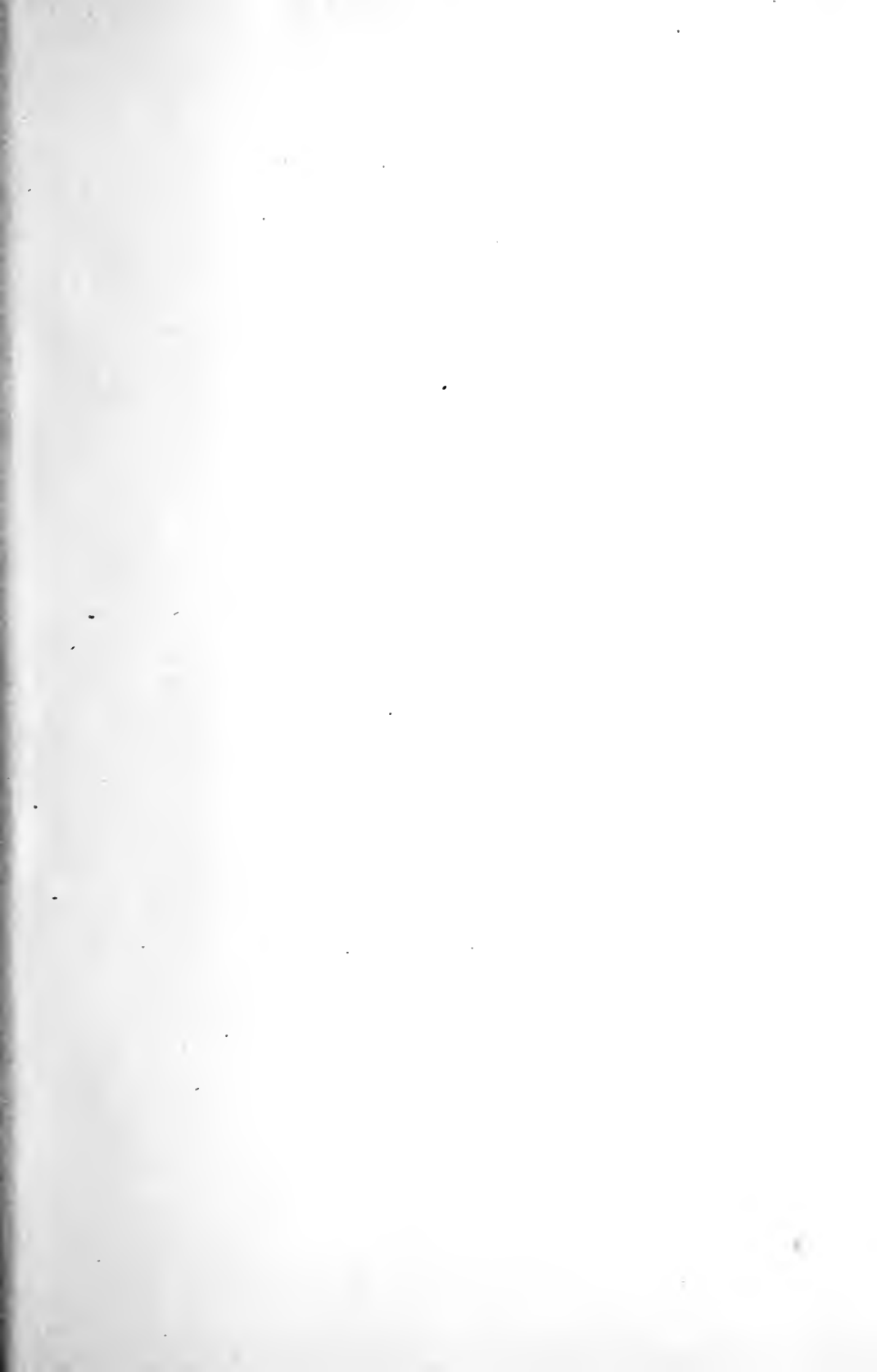
Col. William Shofner, Shelbyville; and Chris. H. Shofner, Shelbyville.

Committee on Finance—James B. Shofner, Shelbyville; Monroe Shofner, Shelbyville; J. M. Shofner, Shelbyville; Gaston Shofner, Nashville; J. B. Shofner, Haley; A. F. Shofner, Haley; and H. T. Parker, Raus.

The circular states further that Committeeman C. L. Shoffner, one of nine on record, has his manuscript in the hands of the printer; and the book will be out by the time we meet, and will be ready for distribution. This is about one-ninth of the work commenced five years ago. There are four others of the committee about ready to print, but will not be out in time for this reunion.

The Executive Committee and the family resident near here wish all to come and take part in this family gathering. Ample provision will be made for those living at a distance. Come all. Parties leaving train at Haley, write J. B. Shofner, Haley; parties leaving train at Shelbyville, address J. M. Shofner, Shelbyville, Tenn.







BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY



3 1197 21319 1569

